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GRANT VIEWS JODY REESE
A business state of mind

New Hampshire is looking like a bad bet for business, and it just shouldn't be. We have some of the highest business taxes in the country, our higher education system is hobbled and our court system is so short on funds that it can't do its job.

But hey, smokes are still cheap.

New Hampshire's business profits tax rate is 8.5 percent, the tenth-highest in the nation. New York state has a lower rate, as do Vermont and Connecticut.

As I mentioned last week, higher education gets little assistance from the state.

Then there's the court system, the perennial punching bag for the state legislature. The court system has been so stripped of resources that it can barely function. The big losers in this have been businesses. Because of constitutional requirements, criminal cases come first, leaving business disputes to wait long times for decisions and court appearances.

It doesn't need to be this way.

Business can and should be allowed to thrive in New Hampshire.

Here's what the state should do:

For starters, allow start-ups to postpone paying or pay a far lower rate on the Business Enterprise tax, which is basically a tax on wages and interest paid out. This tax even has to be paid if the business is losing money, and even a small tax break in the early stages would help start-ups. The cost to the state would be minimal.

Lower unemployment compensation taxes. In recent years (because of higher unemployment) these rates have skyrocketed even for businesses that have no layoffs. For a successful business these new higher taxes are an extra burden on a growing payroll.

Change the Meals and Rooms tax formula. As it is now, New Hampshire's rate of 9 percent is already one of the highest in the county. Though I'd like to see it lowered to 5 percent, the current formula hurts cities and towns with a large hotel and restaurant base, such as Concord, Manchester and Nashua. Those funds are distributed using a population-based formula. This ignores the cost to local governments of additional services required for service-type businesses. In turn, this pushes up property taxes for all (including businesses) in those towns.

Create a quick business court system. It would be a huge help to businesses to have a case decided in less than six months — right now it can take years. At the very least, having a separate avenue for businesses to resolve disputes would encourage banks to loan more commercial money.

There's no reason New Hampshire can't lead the nation in new business creation in the next decade.

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ON THE COVER
HOLIDAY GUIDE Whether your idea for the perfect holiday gift is a pre-Thanksgiving night on the town or a post-Christmas musical performance, head to the holiday guide for a complete rundown of all the events making spirits bright for the next six weeks. Get ready to make your list...

ALSO ON THE COVER
 The Wednesday before Thanksgiving is the unofficial holiday we like to call **Drinks-giving** — a night when bars and restaurants are hopping. Find a complete listing of live music on page 70 and a rundown of other fun planned for the evening on page 4 of the Holiday Guide. In other unofficial holiday news, Friday is not just Black Friday, it's **Record Store Day** (page 64). And check out the latest on **new restaurants** starting on page 38.

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Get the lice out

The first lice treatment center in New Hampshire was slated to open in Plaistow on Saturday, Nov. 17. Nits End, 73 Newton Road, will provide families in New England with a place for safe head lice removal without chemicals. The company offered free head checks on Saturday, Nov. 17, to celebrate its grand opening. Head lice, which cannot hop or fly, infest the head and neck by attaching eggs to the base of hair shafts, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Owners Christine Cherry and Laura Lewis are trained operators of the LouseBuster, an FDA-cleared device that kills all stages of head lice, including the eggs, in a one-time 30-minute treatment, according to a company press release. The device uses heated air to kill lice and their eggs through rapid dehydration, the release said. Visit nhliceremoval.com.



New Hampshire's first lice treatment center, Nits End, will utilize the LouseBuster, pictured here, to rid people of lice infestations. Courtesy photo.

In other news...

• **Tour Manchester schools:** Alderman Patrick Arnold and school board member John Avarad are going forward with plans to host public visits to all 22 public schools in Manchester to let residents see “first-hand the state of the city’s school district,” according to a press release from Avarad and Arnold. They plan to hold public forums following tours to gather ideas and comments. Manchester schools have drawn headlines for overcrowding due to teacher layoffs this year. Avarad said in the press release he expects to garner “fresh information and ideas of how to move this school district further in the right direction.” Mayor Ted Gassas was quoted in a Union Leader article as saying at a school committee meeting, “I think we all know what the problems are. If anybody in this room doesn’t know what the problems in the schools are, they’ve been on another planet.” Call Avarad at 623-2800. Public participation might be limited to minimize disruption. The first round of tours will be Thursday, Nov. 29, at Gossler Park Elementary School at 10 a.m., Northwest Elementary School at 11:30 a.m. and Parker-Varney Elementary School at 1 p.m.

• **State reconsidering pension program:** A special committee of the state House of Representatives recommended the state move away

from a defined benefit retirement system and toward a defined contribution system, like a 401(k) plan. The pension program has come under fire for its growing unfunded liability. Legislators passed a bill last year to provide some reforms. The Special House Committee on Defined Contribution Retirement Plans for Public Employees proposed a system that would be mandatory for new state employees and voluntary for contributing local and county employees. According to a House press release, the committee members reported that under a defined contribution system, the state’s unfunded liability would increase “incrementally” in the short term but decrease dramatically over the long term. “While I suspect it is unlikely that the incoming legislature will be able to move forward on a major change ... this report represents a roadmap that can be used in the future to resolve the looming pension crisis at the state level,” said House Speaker William O’Brien, R-Mont Vernon, in a statement.

• **Veterans could see increased COLA:** U.S. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen voiced approval for the Senate’s passage of the Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2012, which would provide nearly four million veterans and their families with a cost-of-living adjustment to make sure benefits keep up with inflation. The bill passed the Senate unanimously. According to Shaheen’s office, the bill has historically passed with broad bipartisan support, but it was blocked in the Senate in September. The bill would increase veterans’ cost-of-living adjustments by 1.7 percent and would result in an additional \$500 in benefits for veterans.

• **Ayotte praised for anti-Taliban legislation:** Gen. Joseph Dunford, who was nominated to

be the next commander of U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan, recently praised legislation written by Sen. Kelly Ayotte, which was designed to keep U.S. taxpayer money from flowing to enemy

hands in Afghanistan, according to a press release from Ayotte. During a Senate hearing last week, Dunford said the legislation helped prevent at least \$12 million from getting into Taliban hands. In August 2011, the Commission on Wartime Contracting found that as much as \$60 billion of U.S. government contracting funds had been wasted or misspent in Iraq and Afghanistan, and that the second-largest source of income for insurgents was U.S. contracting dollars, the release said. The legislation makes it easier for U.S. officials to void contracts with contractors who funnel taxpayer resources to enemies.

• **Former sheriff candidate heads south:** Frank Szabo has moved to South America. The former candidate for Hillsborough County sheriff made headlines earlier this year when he said he’d consider using deadly force to prevent doctors from performing abortions. “As some of you may know, my family and I have left the country,” Szabo wrote on www.szaboforsheriff.com.

It’s official: The GOP held on — barely — to a majority in the state Senate. In a recount last week, Secretary of State Bill Gardner confirmed Sen. Andy Sanborn, R-Bedford, won election by 213 votes over Democrat Lee Nyquist to give Republicans a 13-11 majority.

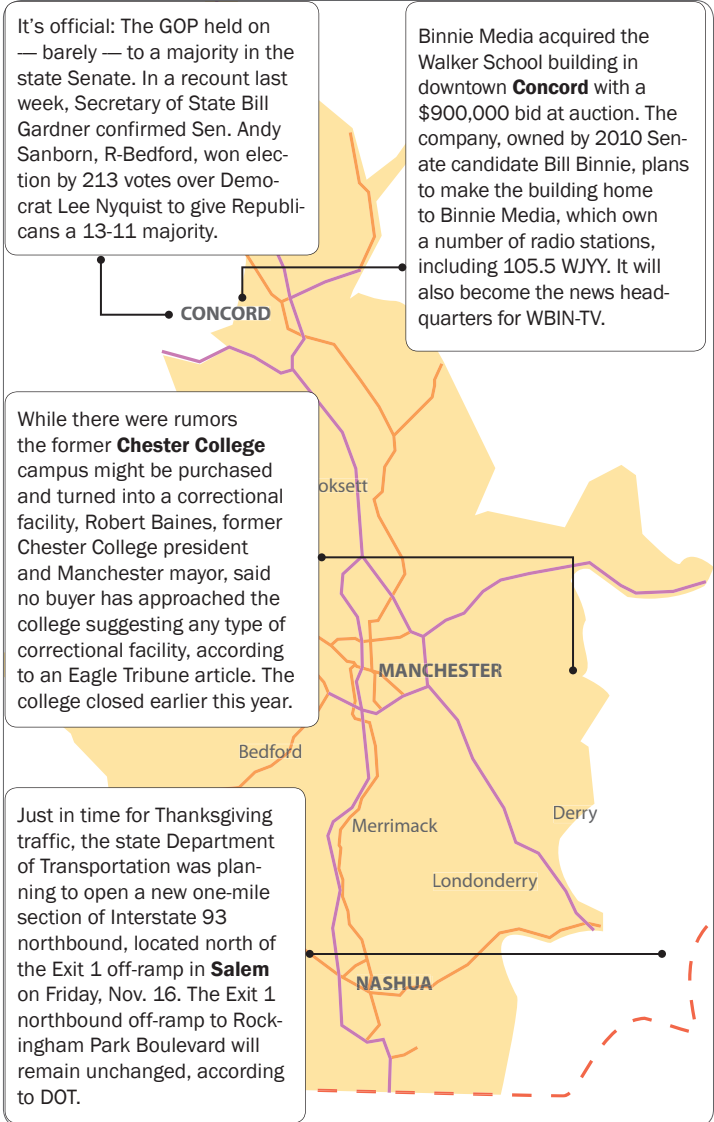
Binnie Media acquired the Walker School building in downtown Concord with a \$900,000 bid at auction. The company, owned by 2010 Senate candidate Bill Binnie, plans to make the building home to Binnie Media, which own a number of radio stations, including 105.5 WJYY. It will also become the news headquarters for WBIN-TV.

While there were rumors the former **Chester College** campus might be purchased and turned into a correctional facility, Robert Baines, former Chester College president and Manchester mayor, said no buyer has approached the college suggesting any type of correctional facility, according to an Eagle Tribune article. The college closed earlier this year.

Just in time for Thanksgiving traffic, the state Department of Transportation was planning to open a new one-mile section of Interstate 93 northbound, located north of the Exit 1 off-ramp in **Salem** on Friday, Nov. 16. The Exit 1 northbound off-ramp to Rockingham Park Boulevard will remain unchanged, according to DOT.

“This was a decision which was a possibility many months ago. If it were not for the campaign, we would have left much earlier. After having lost the primary, it became a certainty. In my opinion, there was nothing

else I could do which could make a real difference.” Szabo lost in the GOP primary to incumbent James Hardy, who won reelection earlier this month. The Concord Monitor reported that Szabo is an aspiring organic farmer.



BEST WEEK



SEN. KELLY AYOTTE

Ayotte doesn’t have to worry about running for re-election until 2016, but she has already positioned herself as a rising star for the GOP, as well as someone who isn’t afraid to take her own party to task. Last week Ayotte took center stage to criticize Susan Rice, the current U.S. ambassador to the U.N., whom many believe President Barack Obama hopes to nominate to succeed Hillary Clinton as secretary of state, as well as the current administration’s handling of the terrorist attacks in Benghazi on Sept. 11. Ayotte also fired back at Gov. Mitt Romney’s suggestion that Obama gave certain voting groups “gifts” in exchange for votes. Many GOP officials have suggested Ayotte should play a prominent role in deciding the state party’s next chairman.

WORST WEEK



NH RESIDENTS HOPING FOR A BREAK FROM POLITICS

Just when people thought they could get a break from politics, it starts up again. According to reports, Public Policy Polling has already begun polling a potential 2014 matchup between Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, who is up for re-election, and former senator John E. Sununu. Sununu beat Shaheen in a race for Senate in 2002, and Shaheen returned the favor in 2008. Sununu hasn’t made any public comments about his intentions yet. The polling firm hasn’t released a poll yet, but news outlets reported automated calls gauging the potential rubber match.



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John Alexander, MD, with his patient
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Charter schools face uncertainty

New legislative makeup could change funding priorities

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

If the future of charter schools in New Hampshire is uncertain now, it could be even more so as the new legislature transitions into the Statehouse.

The GOP-led legislature has been supportive of existing charter schools and welcoming to new charter schools during the last two years. GOP lawmakers have continually talked about the importance of choice and competition in education. During the last two years, eight charter schools opened in New Hampshire. Charter schools have grown from about 300 students in 2006 to more than 2,000 now, officials said. There are 17 charter schools in operation and another is scheduled to open next fall in Derry.

But new charter school applicants began to feel they were getting the runaround this past summer. They had trouble scheduling meetings with Department of Education officials, said Matthew Southerton, executive director of the New Hampshire Center for Innovative Schools, which advocates for charter schools. Many new charter school groups had moved well into the process of opening a school when things stalled at the state level.

And then in September, seemingly out of the blue from charter school advocates' perspective, the Board of Education denied all outstanding charter school applications and said it would deny any future applications until funding issues were resolved.

Charter schools were underfunded by about \$4.4 million this year, which the BOE cited when it instituted the charter school ban in September. The legislature authorized the DOE to spend the additional \$4.4 million last week, which covers charter school costs through the rest of this fiscal year but doesn't provide funding for any new charter schools.

During the budgeting process in 2010, the DOE dramatically underreported the num-



ber of charter school students. Southerton's organization provided lawmakers with more accurate figures. Lawmakers and DOE officials knew the DOE's figures were inaccurate. Lawmakers opted to reduce the

line item anyway to help balance the budget on paper and then "deal with it later," Southerton said.

Legislators passed legislation to accompany the state budget two years ago allowing the state to exceed the budgeted amount for charter schools, knowing they were underfunded. The original state budget allocated as much as \$10.2 million for charter schools. The state spends about \$5,500 per charter school student, officials said.

The BOE has faced criticism from some, saying it's not the Board's job to worry about the financial side of the equation; rather, it's the Board's job to judge charter schools on the merit of an application. Board Chairman Thomas Raffio said earlier this fall that one of the application criteria is financial sustainability. With funding unclear, Raffio said the Board opted to wait until the new legislature makes the call.

"Conceptually, we're in favor of charter schools, and we hope the legislature will resolve this year's shortfall, and then we'll wait for the new legislature to make a determination on future charter schools," Raffio said in an interview with the Hippo last month.

Some see politics in this decision. But the BOE feels it cannot sign off on more charter schools until it knows the state is prepared to fund them, Raffio said.

A partisan issue?

Historically, Republicans have been more supportive of charter schools than

Democrats. With Democrats holding the governor's office and a majority in the state House of Representatives, it's possible charter schools won't be met with open arms in the coming legislative session. Still, Southerton has hope.

"I personally know a lot of Democrats support charter schools," Southerton said. "An interesting fact is that the majority of these [charter school] startup groups are all Democrats. ... I'm certainly hoping we can work with the new legislature to break this logjam."

Democrats have campaigned on investing more in education after the legislature made significant cuts in the current budget, particularly to the state's university system. It's unclear what that might mean for charter schools.

There is talk of forming a local entity of Democrats for Education Reform, which is a national group, Southerton said.

Pushing forward

Total state adequacy for education is \$955 million in the current budget. Even including the recent \$4.4 million authorization for charter schools, total charter school funding is \$13.5 million this year. That's 1.4 percent of the total state adequacy aid budget, Southerton said.

"That's what's sad to me," Southerton said.

Southerton is concerned about the financial implications of the charter school ban. The state is in the third year of a five-year federal charter school startup grant totalling \$11.6 million. The state is slated to receive about \$2.4 million in each of the next two years. "That's \$5 million coming into the economy giving teachers and parents different options," Southerton said. With the BOE instituting a ban on charter schools, Southerton was concerned the federal government would reduce the amount of the grant, he said. 🐼

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NEWS & NOTES

On the fiscal edge

State stands to lose if federal government can't strike a deal

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

Pick a metaphor: cliff, hill or overlook. Whatever the choice, the country and New Hampshire are set to fall over something on Jan. 1.

While there is plenty of political posturing pertaining to the so-called fiscal cliff, the cliff itself, which signals across-the-board cuts to all reaches of the federal government, is no political ploy.

"It's serious," said Dennis Delay, an economist with the New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies in Concord. "It's going to affect New Hampshire as much as other states around the country, maybe New England a little more so because of the demographic makeup and the industry makeup...."

If no deal is reached on the federal level, a series of cuts will take place on Jan. 1 that could mean extensive state budget cuts and the likelihood that the nation will fall back into recession. The automatic spending cuts

would make the country's Gross Domestic Product fall by \$215 billion and would cost the country 2.14 million jobs, according to a George Mason University study earlier this year.

If nothing is done before Jan. 1, automatic cuts would reduce employment in New Hampshire in 2014 by about 2 percent. The state's unemployment rate was 5.7 percent for October. A George Mason University report suggested New Hampshire would lose 6,300 jobs.

"Frankly, job growth hasn't been much more than [2 percent in New Hampshire]," Delay said. "If something isn't done, it's likely we'd see not only a recession nationally, but a decline in jobs both nationally and ... in New Hampshire as well."

Delay said economists say if no deal is struck, in 2013 the reduced spending and increased taxes will pull about 3.5 percent out of the gross domestic product. The economy hasn't been growing by much more than 2 percent nationally. Pull out 3.5 percent, and that makes for an economy that decreases by 1.5 percent, Delay said. "That's a recession," Delay said. "Simply put, when the economy declines overall, that's the classic definition of a recession."

For the average New Hampshire taxpayer, Charles Arlinghaus, executive director of the Josiah Bartlett Center for Public Policy in Concord, said concerns should be centered less on individual impacts and more on the risk of recession.

"The reason this has to be fixed is not because you have to pay another \$50 in taxes or the other guy has to pay another \$200; it's because if we don't fix it, the economy will slip into another recession like Europe," Arlinghaus said.

Widespread impacts

New Hampshire, and particularly the Nashua area, has a significant number of defense-related companies. With the Department of Defense slated to be cut significantly, defense programs are going to be on the chopping block, and that would hurt companies such as BAE Systems, Delay said. New Hampshire has already seen significant cutbacks in those areas, with Pease Air Force Base closing, as well as cuts to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard: "That probably means we have less at stake, in terms of possible cuts to the military, than the South or the western part of the country does," Delay said. Entitlement programs are set to be cut as well. Federal payouts to individuals — things like Social Security, unemployment compensation, Medicare and Medicaid — will also be cut. New Hampshire doesn't receive as much federal funding as other parts of the country, but there would be an impact, Delay said.

The fiscal cliff could create problems for state budget writers. There will be increased pressure on the federal budget in every respect. With that in mind, budget writers should be expecting less federal aid.

"When the state turns to the federal government, the money is just not going to be available," Arlinghaus said. "A lot of times, when they're looking to balance the budget, they're looking for some sort of angle to drag more money out of Washington. The pressure from the cliff means there won't be any angles to be had."

Democrats have talked about wanting to

invest more money in education and hospitals while expanding Medicaid. Less federal aid might make that difficult, Arlinghaus said.

The economic uncertainty makes it difficult for businesses to expand or do much other than stand pat. Delay said he's given presentations to bankers recently in New Hampshire and Vermont, as well as businessmen in the construction industry. "Both groups are singing the same tune," Delay said. Bankers are trying to position themselves for when higher capital gains taxes are instituted. Construction companies don't know if they can go ahead on certain projects. They all say they're cutting back in advance, Delay said.

Let's make a deal

Delay said he thought calling it a fiscal cliff could be an overstatement. The implications are real and dramatic, true, but lawmakers could reach an agreement sometime in early 2013 that could minimize the impact, he said.

On the other side of the argument is the idea that if lawmakers aren't willing to do something now — raise taxes or make substantial cuts — they never will be.

"The benefit to doing nothing is that you might simply ... start the process where ... policymakers begin to seriously address the fiscal shape of the U.S. economy," Delay said.

Still, if lawmakers do nothing, it will likely mean a prolonged period of slow economic growth in New Hampshire, Delay said.

If lawmakers can craft legislation to address a good chunk of the issues by about March 2013, it won't be the end of the world, Delay said. "But they won't be able to take back the uncertainty, and frankly, the dissatisfaction a lot of people are going to feel again, referring to Washington as a place where they just never get anything done."

Arlinghaus agreed lawmakers could still address issues after Jan. 1. Likewise, even if lawmakers reach a deal, they aren't out of the woods. It just means this particular crisis is averted, Arlinghaus said. The country would still have a \$1 trillion budget deficit this year and would be borrowing big chunks of money to pay for spending, while adding billions to the country's debt.

"The situation isn't going to be fixed for 10 years, and it's only fixed in 10 years if we start today," Arlinghaus said.

Arlinghaus was optimistic some type of deal would be reached before Jan. 1.

"While everyone agrees we need to cut spending, there must be a better way to do it," he said.

Still, he doesn't expect any agreement until Dec. 29.

"It's like a term paper in college; nobody turns them in early," Arlinghaus said. ☁

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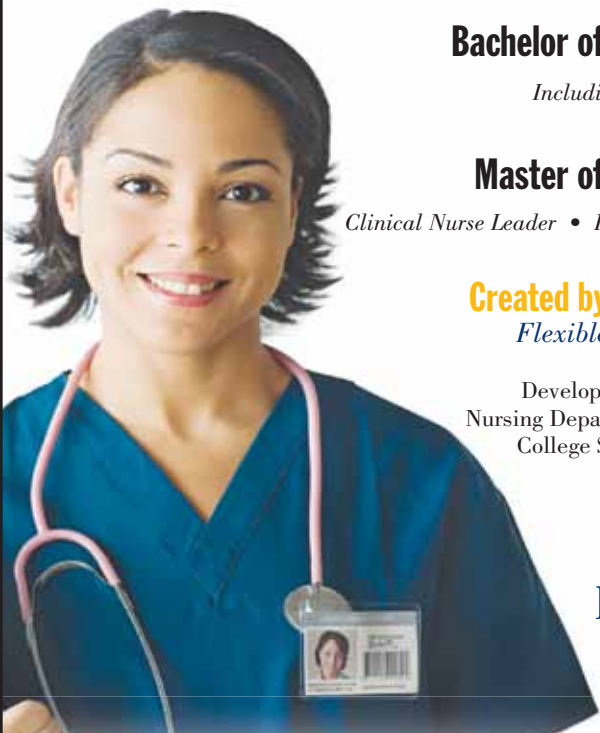
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Holiday game plan

Set a strategy for weekend outlet shopping

Staff members at Merrimack Premium Outlets are gearing up for their first holiday shopping season. The outlet center, which opened in June, will host a Midnight Madness event on Black Friday, Nov. 23. Elaine Devine, the center's general manager, talks about what to expect.

Q: *How is it going so far? Can we say that the holiday shopping season has begun?*

Well, it will certainly begin in earnest with Midnight Madness.

Are you expecting or seeing any trends in terms of the types of products people are interested in?

Actually, we've noticed a couple things. Most shoppers are looking for value. As we are a new center here in New Hampshire, we feel shoppers will be embracing having their own outlet center this holiday shopping season. We're hoping we'll be a new trend in the area, since we'll be open for our first holiday shopping season. As far as trends go, we do anticipate people will not only shop to fill their own list, but we're also seeing people making more personal purchases because they are starting to feel better about the economy. Fashion-wise, jewel tones and classic looks are in. The other nice thing that is wonderful for our shoppers — a lot of them have smart devices — just last week we launched a mobile website so shoppers can navigate centers with greater ease. And members of the VIP shopping club can access paperless coupons for all the stores right on their smartphones. As always we do expect continued use of Facebook and Twitter. People love to share their holiday experiences and great holiday buys.

I was going to ask about the smartphone piece.

Absolutely. You can really zone in on your favorite stores and bring up all the specials for each retailer offering a deal. It's a great way to shop.

How should people approach the center for their holiday shopping?

When you approach holiday shopping after Thanksgiving and that first weekend, you need to have a fun and adventurous attitude because the deals ... are really just not to be beat that weekend. This isn't for everybody. That's why our sales run through Sunday. Our company, Premium Outlets, has hosted midnight openings for over 10 years now. We're thrilled to be a part of that tradition. A select number of stores will open at 9 p.m. on Thanksgiving night. We still want to preserve Thanksgiving Day as a



Elaine Devine.
Courtesy photo.

day to be with family and friends, because we knew if we opened earlier, people would come even earlier.

How do you approach this time of year? I'm sure it's busy, but it must be fun too.

It is a tremendous amount of fun. We're really excited to be hosting our first Midnight Madness event. We're really looking forward to it.

For people who have never shopped on Black Friday or taken part in a Midnight Madness event, what should they expect?

A lot of shoppers, people who really love shopping, have been planning for weeks and months. We do everything we can to make it an enjoyable experience. The key to prepare: This isn't casual shopping. You need a game plan. Go to our website. ... You can print out store sales. Print out a map of the center. Join our VIP Shoppers Club, which is free. Print out all of those coupons. Determine the stores that are your top priorities. This is not for the meek. Bring a friend and split up the stores, so you maximize your time in line. Come up with a plan and come in with a great attitude.

What do [shoppers] like about the new center?

Most people, as soon as they come in, they just love the ambiance of the center. Obviously, they're so impressed with the great selection of retailers at the center. We've just been so welcomed and so well-received. We're really thrilled to be a part of this community.

Any other shopping trends you'd note for the holiday season?

For us, the majority of our merchandise is apparel ... and we cater to a wider cross-section of people looking for quality merchandise that will last, items that are viewed as a good investment. That has not changed. ... Again, name brands continue to be key.

— Jeff Mucciarone

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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Homes sales and median price keep climbing

Homes sales last month showed the largest median price jump since January 2008 to \$212,000, compared to the \$190,000 median price in October 2011, an 11.6 percent increase, according to the New Hampshire Association of Realtors. Home sales also jumped last month, from 938 sales in October 2011 to 1,191 sales last month, a 20 percent increase. Year to date, residential unit sales have increased by 20.1 percent in 2012, while median price for the first 10 months is at \$202,500, compared with \$205,000 after the first nine months of last year, according to NHAR.

QOL score: +1

Comment: "This is now clearly a trend," said NHAR President John Rice. "We anticipated that increased numbers of sales would eventually lead to upward pressure on prices, and that's what we're seeing now."

NH improving its preterm birth rate

New Hampshire, with a 9.5 percent preterm birth rate in 2012, earned an A grade on the March of Dimes 2012 Premature Birth report card. Nationally, the preterm birth rate has improved each of the last five years. New Hampshire was one of four states to receive A's. March of Dimes and the state Department of Health and Human Services are shooting to reduce the state's premature birth rate to at least 8 percent by 2014, according to a March of Dimes press release. In the 2012 report card, 16 states improved their grades. The country as a whole received a C.

QOL score: +2

Comment: "New Hampshire's progress means that more babies are being born healthy, excess health care costs are being reduced, and families are being spared the heartache of having a baby born too soon," said Dr. Rebecca Ewing, OB/GYN, and program services committee chairwoman with New Hampshire March of Dimes.

Crunching the numbers

Fourteen more Granite Staters voted for the President this year than in 2008, making the total vote at the top of the New Hampshire ballot a record-setter (from 710,970 to 710,984). However, the total number of ballots cast on Nov. 6 was 615 less in 2012, with 718,788, compared to 2008's record of 719,403, according to the Union Leader.

QOL score: +1 for 14 more people voting for president, -1 for fewer ballots cast than in 2008.

Comment: This year, more Granite Staters also went to the polling places, with 67,051 absentee ballots cast this year, as compared to 72,264 in 2008, and a record of 99,304 people who registered to vote on Election Day.

Get your Twinkies now!

Twinkies, Sno Balls, Devil Dogs and Ho Hos are a thing of the past, one week after the company's biggest unions went on strike to protest a labor contract, according to an article in the New York Times.

QOL score: -1

Comment: Apparently Twinkies do have a limited shelf life.

QOL score: 77

Net change: +2

QOL this week: 79

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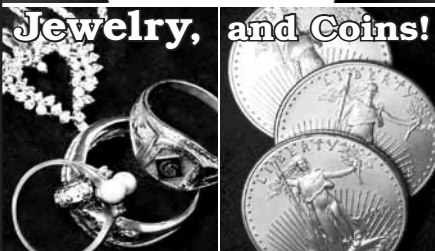
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SPORTS DAVE LONG'S LONGSHOTS



Thanks for the turkeys

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday, and since it's happening this week that means it's time for us to give our annual thanks for the good things in sports over the last year and to mention all the turkeys who have hopped across our path during the same time. So here goes:

To the free-spending L.A. Dodgers: Thank you, thank you, thank you for letting **Ben Cherington** strip away some \$230 million in long-term payroll commitments by taking over-the-hill **Josh Beckett** and out-of-his-element **Carl Crawford**, because they love the marketing potential of a guy the stat geeks love, despite habitually turning up small when it counts most — **Adrian Gonzalez**.

Three gobbles to the "Lead With PR" approach by the Sox. You've done mostly good work here, and locals should be grateful, but you're far too conscious of spinning the PR. It's not a good look, because it treats the whiny but smart fan base like it's stupid, and that ALWAYS comes back to bite you.

P.S. to **John Henry**: If you really do think the team needs a heavier dose of **Bill James** and his bogus evaluation methods, I'm OK if you spend most of the year with the soccer team in Liverpool.

Thanks for **Tom Brady** — we ain't got that many years left, so savor the flavor, because unless something lucky happens here like it did in Indy when **Peyton Manning** went down, it won't be the same after he's gone to that gigantic house in L.A.

Three gobbles to the talent-pickers of the Patriots defense. It's like when, after the latest mishap from his hapless 1962 Mets, **Casey Stengel** half pleaded, half bellowed "Can't anyone out here play this game?"

One gobbles to **CBS**: Enough already with all the cutaway shots to the owner's box on Patriots broadcasts when the otherwise estimable **Jim Nance** calls him "Mr.

Kraft" in a reverent tone like he's talking about **Ghandi**.

Thanks for **RGIII** and **Andrew Luck** as they give us the makings of the next Brady-Manning rivalry, although since they play in different conferences we'll unfortunately not see them face to face nearly as often.

Thanks for **Tim Tebow**. After all the hoo-ha in the Denver exit and in NYC last week we still don't hear anything but positive stuff, even as the Jets' offense is horrendous and he should be playing. Here's hoping he's traded to Jacksonville, where the owner really wants him, so he just gets the chance to show whether he can or can't win in the NFL. And not just because he'll prove me right when he does.

Three gobbles for the **stat Ggeks**. Don't mean to be harsh, but get over yourselves, fellas. Sane baseball men, like two-time world champion GM **Brian Sabean** of the Concord Sabean, know cyberball is about 10 percent of the evaluation process and the back end 10 percent for tiebreakers. Budget-busting failure of Theo in Boston and his minions who flunked out in San Diego and Arizona after leaving is testimony to that.

Two gobbles to locals who won't give **Ray Allen** the standing O he deserves his first game back in Boston because he went south for less money. Which doesn't mean the bigs shouldn't bang him when he goes in the lane to remind him there's a price for going to the rack in the other uniform.

One gobbles to Ray: Man up and just say, I was ticked at **Doc** and **Danny** and left because there was more playing time in Miami.

Thanks for **Doc Rivers**. He's doesn't give the media a lot of BS or a hard time like so many other coaches and makes it interesting for fans. Throw in that he can coach, and it's a winning combination.

Ditto for **Danny**, who is playing chess while most of the rest of the field is playing checkers.

Four million gobbles for ESPN's **Stuart Scott** for his regular inane over-drama like "He's leaving dudes in his dust" or, as the Saints' **Patrick Robinson** was taking a pick to the house a few weeks ago, "This ain't no playground!" What does that mean?! Listening to him is the real-life equivalent of **Chief Inspector Dreyfus** taking a meeting with **Jacque Clouseau**. My left eye starts twitching and I get this uncontrollable half giggle, half groan. As **Dean Wormer** said of one of the Delts in *Animal House*, "I hate that guy."

Three gobbles for **Bud Selig** going with 40-man rosters in the All-Star game and giving home field in the World Series to the league that wins a stinking exhibition game. Here's a suggestion: If you can't see the logic of giving it to the team that has the best record, then give it to the league that wins inter-league play. At least those games count.

Thanks for a year in baseball that shows brain power can overpower gigantic pay-rolls as the Giants prevailed by sweeping the Tigers out of the World Series after giving \$200 million to the free agent formerly known as **Prince Fielder**. A week after, the Tigers swept the even bigger-spending Yankees, who still owe **Alex Rodriguez** a zillion dollars over the next five years when he looks done. All of which followed a regular season where the big-spending Red Sox, Cubs, Dodgers, Angles and Rangers all didn't even make an expanded playoff format as Baltimore and Oakland did.

Thanks for a very exciting first 10 days to the MLB playoffs, which had all sorts of dramatic and at times unexpected endings.

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone.

Dave Long can be e-mailed at dlong@hippopress.com. He hosts Saturday Morning Sports with Dave Long from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays on WGAM - The Game 1250-AM in Manchester and 900-AM in Nashua.

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Sports Glossary

Inspector Jacques Clouseau: Mentor of Chief Inspector **Charles Dreyfus** and bumbling star of the Pink Panther film series. Drove Dreyfus batty with a series of incompetent missteps that included shooting himself with a gun after Clouseau told him it was a cigarette lighter that resembled a gun snipping off his finger with a cigar cutter and hitting a nearly cured Dreyfus in the head with the runaway head of a croquet mallet on the day he was to be released from the insane asylum, which Clouseau's action drove him to in the first place.

Bud Selig: The living, breathing example of competition, as despite a litany of missteps he's currently judged to be the best commissioner in pro sports after **Roger Goodell** (Bounty-gate and the lockout), **David Stern** (gambling ref going to jail, a lock-out) and **Gary Bettman** (threatening a second canceled season this century as the NHL) have stumbled their way into one crisis after another in ways that make him look like **Winston Churchill** in comparison.

Dean Wormer: Beleaguered disciplinary head of Faber College ground into near submission by the guys from Delta House in 1978's *National Lampoon's Animal House*. After a horse smuggled into his office dies of a heart attack, his wife sleeps with Otter the slick Delta ladies' man and the mayor's passed-out, underaged daughter is dropped on his doorstep in a shopping cart after a wild toga party with Otis (my Man) Dave and the Knights at Delta House.

SPORTS DAVE LONG'S PEOPLE, PLACES & OTHER STUFF

F-Cat alums figure big in huge MLB trade

The Big Story: It's the traditional Thanksgiving Day match-up at Gill Stadium for the city championship between Trinity and Manchester Central. With **Carmen Giampetruzzi** and **Riley Cote**, it's a game with top-tier QBs and playoff-level teams. The Pioneers made it to the Division IV title game before losing 7-0 in the final minute to Plymouth to close out an 8-2 season, while Central comes into the game 6-5 overall after it was knocked out in Round 1 of the Division I playoffs by Exeter. Game time is 10:15 a.m.

Sports 101: Who are the only four players in baseball history in both 3,000 hits and 500 home run clubs?

A Little History: PPO contributor legendary **Tom Ameen** tells us the first Thanksgiving football game in Manchester was on Nov. 26, 1891, when Manchester High School defeated the Exeter Clerks 12-6. Exeter was composed of young men working as clerks in various businesses. TDs were four points and conversion kicks were two points. MHS' **Eustache Dorion** scored in the first half, Exeter went ahead in the second half, and Manchester won it on TDs by **Charlie Manning** and **George Abbott**. The crowd was estimated to be

between 350 and 500.

Championship Saturday Blues: Seacoast 3 – Southern NH 0. That was the scoreboard on championship Saturday in high school football, when teams from the eastern part of the state prevailed in games with teams from greater Manchester. It saw Exeter take out Pinkerton 31-21 behind a 27-yard TD pass from **Ethan (re) Joyce** to **Colby Swane** with 4:47 that iced the Division I title for a second straight year for the Blue Hens. In Division II, Winnacunnet bested Bedford 21-13 in a game that was sealed when the master of late-game magic, Bulldog QB **James Caparell**, lost control of the ball after a big hit with 70 seconds left that ended hopes for another miracle finish. And in Division III, Goffstown could not pull its second straight big upset, losing 54-27 to Portsmouth despite 293 total yards from **Connor Benjamin**.

On This Date – Nov. 22: 1917 The NHL forms with teams in Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa and Quebec. **1959** Boston Patriots are founded as original AFL member.

Sports 101: The four players in the 3,000-500 club are **Willie Mays**, **Hank Aaron**, the under-rated **Eddie Murray** and steroid tainted **Rafael Palmeiro**.

The Numbers

0 – losses after three games after throttling St. Michael's 62-46 to give SNHU its best start since 2005-06, when **Rodney Sanders** led the way with 18 points.

2.03 – goals-against average for Manchester Monarchs goalie **Martin Jones**, who has three shut-outs in his first 11 games.

3 – Fisher Cats alumni in the gigantic 12-player deal

between Toronto and Miami that sent alums **Henderson Alvarez**, **Jake Marisnick** and **Adeiny Hechavarria** and others south to bring **Jose Reyes**, **Mark Buehrle** and **Josh Johnson** north to make life difficult for **Ben Cherington** and the Red Sox in the AL East.

4 – local players on the men's and women's hoop squads at Plymouth State, including **Katie Seraikas** and **Meghan Faretra** of

Bow and Central Alums **Joe Stisser** and **Gabe (down for the) LaCount**.

34 – margin of victory in the sports-people presidential race between home state guy **Kobe Bryant** in California and **Peyton Manning**, who won 49 percent to 15 percent.

35 – team-leading shots on goal by **Slava Voynov** when he has three goals through the Monarchs' first 11 games. 🐾

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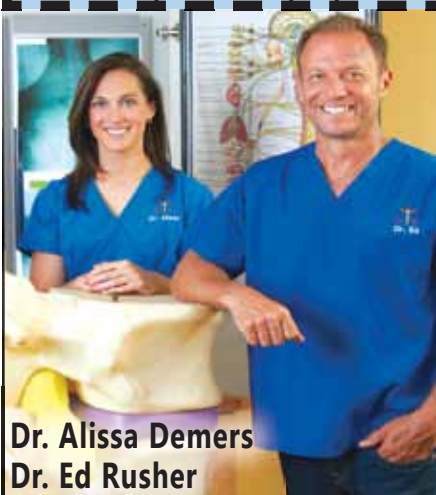
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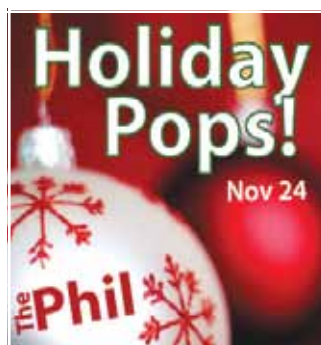
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THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT NOVEMBER 22 - 28, 2012, AND BEYOND

Friday, Nov. 23

Have cookies and milk with Santa at the Kellerhaus (Route 3 between Meredith and Weirs Beach), plus candy samples and personalized ornaments, from 2 to 4 p.m. Call 366-4466 or go to www.kellerhaus.com.



Friday, Nov. 23

A weeklong event, the Southern New Hampshire Festival of Trees will feature a variety of entertainment at Pelham Town Hall (6 Village Green, Pelham) Friday, Nov. 23, through Saturday, Dec. 1. The festival will feature music and dance performances, a Romper Rhythms Puppet Show and visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus on the weekends. Visit www.pelhamcommunityspirit.org.

Saturday, Nov. 24

The New Hampshire Philharmonic performs selections from the Nutcracker, Vivaldi Gloria, the popular Christmas carol sing-along, and other holiday favorites at the Stockbridge Theatre, 44 N. Main St., Derry, stockbridgetheatre.com, at 7:30 p.m. Call 437-5210 for ticket prices.



Sunday, Nov. 25

Head to an opening reception for the Home for the Holidays exhibition at Frisella Fine Art Studio (26 Old Manchester Road, Candia, frisellafineart.com). Receptions are Saturday, Nov. 24, from 2 to 7 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 25, from 2 to 5 p.m. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served. On view through Dec. 29.



Tuesday, Nov. 27

Dennis Lehane presents his newest book, *Live by Night*, at 7 p.m., at Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord). Rescheduled from Oct. 27. Tickets are \$28.50, which includes a copy of the book. Visit ccanh.com.

Free: taste beer

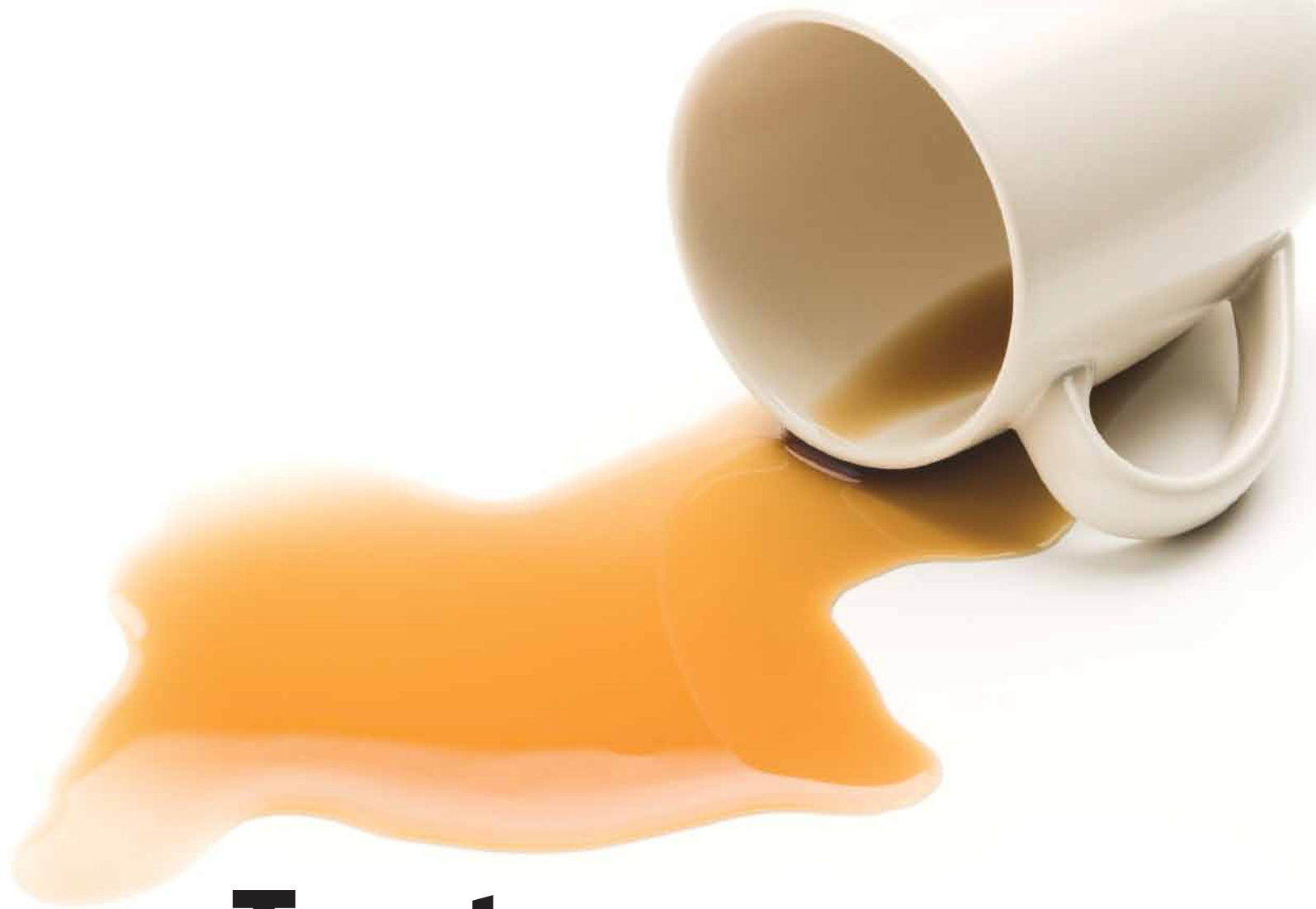
Attend a Smuttynose Tasting at Bert's Better Beers (1100 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 413-5992, www.bertsbetterbeers.com) Tues., Nov. 27, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. It's free; just bring a valid ID.

Cheap: cabaret

Rob Dionne of the Majestic Theatre will perform a holiday edition of his piano/vocal cabaret on Saturday, Nov. 24, at the Samuel and May Gruber Recital Hall at Manchester Community Music School, 2291 Elm St., Manchester. General admission tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Refreshments will be available. Call 669-7469 or visit majestictheatre.net.

Splurge: train ride

Head up the mountain with Santa on the Mount Washington Cog Railway on Friday, Nov. 23, Saturday, Nov. 24, Sunday, Nov. 25, Saturday, Dec. 1, and Sunday, Dec. 2. Tickets are \$33 for adults, \$28 for ages 4 to 12, and passengers 3 and younger can ride at no charge as long as they sit on an adult's lap. Call 278-5404 or visit www.thecog.com.



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More to Clemens than Twain

Interpreter gives life to the man behind *Huck Finn*

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Kurt Sutton sports a white suit a few sizes too big for him when he plays Samuel Clemens — better known as Mark Twain.

He's been channeling the famous writer on stage for eight years on his national tour, "An Evening With Mark Twain," which comes to the Concord City Auditorium on Wednesday, Nov. 28. But Sutton had been preparing for this role for ages. Twenty years ago, in fact, before he retired from working as a teacher and business owner, his wife bought him the white suit that Twain was famous for. This would be the suit he'd wear, she told him.

"I talked so much about doing it [impersonating Twain], that my wife had a suit custom-made for me. But she got it three sizes bigger than I am. She said that it was because I was going to get fat when I got older. Plus, a bigger suit makes you look older," he said. When he's telling the anecdote that Mark Twain told of learning to ride a bicycle as a 70-year-old, the outfit just adds to the performance.

Maybe the suit helps him get into character, but Twain's material is so good that Sutton said he doesn't need much help for his performances.

"He was the first stand-up com-

ic," Sutton said. "Comics today, it's a short story with a punchline. Twain was a humorist; he told longer stories that had satire about a politician, or whatever the subject was that he talked about, and it made you think. And while you were thinking, you realized that what he said was really funny."

Even 150 years later, his material works.

"When he told stories about people's greed or happiness, he was always just spot on. Human nature hasn't changed much for 10,000 years; we still hate each other and love each other and have the same emotions. He could just capture them in words and images, and he spoke the same things that you could relate to as a young person," Sutton said.

Sutton's two-act production is set up like the kind of lecture tour that famous authors used to take across the country. "During the 1800s, this was the only way that people got to see famous people like Emerson and Tennyson, Dickinson and Harriet Beecher Stowe," he said. "To see the actual writer in real life, that was a big thing. ... People have always been like that. They want to see famous people. It's just like when you're going to see Justin Bieber."

Ninety percent of the stories he shares are those that Clemens wrote, comments he made, quotes from him. The other 10 percent

Twain

When: Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord

Website: walkerlecture.org

Price: Free

are the segues between the pieces, the transitions Sutton created to go from one story to another.

Sutton studied Mark Twain like most people did in school. He read *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. But he became more interested in the man behind the pseudonym, Samuel Clemens, and after graduating from Reinhardt College at the University of Georgia, he continued to study Clemens.

Lots of people know Mark Twain, but not as many people know Samuel Clemens, Sutton said.

"Mark Twain was just part of what Samuel Clemens did. But Samuel Clemens, you'll see that he was a writer, a steamboat pilot, a gold miner, an inventor, an investor.... He did all kinds of things besides write *Tom Sawyer* and *Huckleberry Finn*," Sutton said.

Some people will think he's copying Hal Holbrook, an American actor famous for his Mark Twain impersonations, Sutton



Kurt Sutton as Samuel Clemens in "An Evening with Mark Twain." Courtesy photo.

said, but his performance is different from Holbrook's. His intention is not to impersonate the famous writer.

"I'm not an impersonator. I'm an interpreter. I interpret it the way that I think he'd like it to be interpreted," he said.

Unlike Holbrook, he also will be playing both Clemens and Twain on Wednesday night. How will you know when he's playing which role? For one, Twain never played music in public. That was something he kept for private guests. Few people know that Clemens was a musician, and in the show, he'll play music from the time period. Twain will be the guy telling a humorous story from one of his books, *Roughing It*, about a buffalo hunt, and Clemens will follow with the song "Buffa-

lo Gal." The second act also pays tribute to Clemens' serious side, with a dramatic rendition of Huck Finn's trip down the Mississippi with Jim the runaway slave.

Sutton loves touring the country "like a rock star" with his wife and makes a trip to New Hampshire almost every year, always polishing his production. One of his favorite quotes from Twain is, "When I was younger, I could remember anything, whether it happened or not, but my faculties are decaying now and soon I shall be so I cannot remember any but the things that never happened." It's a quote that you appreciate more as you age, he said.

"When you're older, you'll understand," he said. 🍷

16 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

THEATER LISTINGS

- **The Acting Loft**
670 N. Commercial St., Manchester, in the Jefferson Mill Building. 666-5999, actingloft.org
- **Actorsingers**
219 Lake St., Nashua, 889-9691, actorsingers.org
- **Adams Memorial Opera House**
29 W. Broadway, Derry, 437-0505, derryarts.org
- **Amato Family Center for the Performing Arts at Souhegan Valley Boys & Girls Club**
56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002, ext. 2, svbgc.com
- **Andy's Summer Playhouse**
Wilton, 654-2613, andysummerplayhouse.org
- **Anselmian Abbey Players**

- Dana Center, 641-7700
- **Bedford Off Broadway**
Meetinghouse Rd, Bedford, 557-1805, bedfordoffbroadway.com
- **Bedford Town Hall**
70 Bedford Center Rd., Bedford
- **Bedford Youth Performing Company**
155 Route 101, Bedford, www.bypc.org, 472-3894.
- **Belle Voci**
bellevoci.org, 848-7986
- **Capitol Center for the Arts**
44 Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
- **Concord Choral**
224-0770, concordchorale.org
- **Concord City Auditorium**
2 Prince St., Concord, 228-2793, www.theaudi.org
- **Concord Community Players**

17 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

- 224-4905, communityplayersofconcord.org
- **The Dana Center**
100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu
- **The Hampstead Theatre**
1355 Suncook Valley Hwy., Ctr. Barnstead, 1-800-619-5302, www.hampsteadstage.org
- **The Majestic Theatre**
Manchester, 669-7469, www.majestictheatre.net
- **Manchester Community Music School**
2291 Elm St., 644-4548, mcmusicschool.org
- **Manchester Community Theatre and Second Stage Professional Co.**
698 Beech St., Manchester, 627-8787

- **Milford Area Players**
673-2258, milfordareaplayers.org
- **Muchachos Drum & Bugle Corps**
PO Box 5197, Manchester, 674-7650, www.muchachos.org
- **Music and Drama Company (MADCo.)**
Londonderry, madco.org
- **My Act**
myact.org, 429-3950
- **Nashua Theatre Guild**
PO Box 137, Nashua, 03061, 320-2530, nashuatheatreguild.org
- **New Thalian Players**
newthalianplayers.org, 666-6466
- **Nashua Community College Performing Arts Club (PAC)**

20 Classical

Includes symphony and orchestral performances. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

- 505 Amherst St., Nashua, 428-3544
- **The Palace Theatre**
80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
- **Peacock Players**
14 Court St., Nashua, 886-7000, peacockplayers.org
- **Pittsfield Players**
6 Depot St., Pittsfield, 435-8852, pittsfieldplayers.com
- **Profile Chorus**
profilechorus.org
- **School of Theater Arts at The Amato Center for Performing Arts**
56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002, ext. 20
- **Seacoast Repertory Theatre**
125 Bow St., Portsmouth, 433-4472
- **SNHU Drama Club**

- 2500 N. River Road, Hooksett
- **Stagecoach Productions**
7 Bayberry Way, Mont Vernon, 672-9664, stagecoachproductions.org
- **Stage One Productions Dinner Theatre at the Chateau Restaurant**
201 Hanover St., Manchester 669-5511, stageoneprod.com
- **THE NUTCRACKER** at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Fri., Nov. 23, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Nov. 24, at 11 a.m., 4 & 7:30 p.m.; and Sun., Nov. 25, at 1 & 4:30 p.m. Tickets range in price, \$15-\$45.
- **THE NUTCRACKER** presented by the New England Dance Ensemble on Sat., Nov. 24, at

• **That's flute-tastic:** Prepare for a different sound than you remember from band if you see the Nashua Flute Choir perform this fall in its 30th season. From the sparkling high note of the piccolo to the deep sound of the "heavy metal" section, you can hear a full range in the choir's concerts the next few weeks. The choir plays on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Sherburne Hall in the Municipal Building, 6 Village Green, Pelham, and its Christmas concert is Sunday, Dec. 9, at 3 p.m., at the Main Street United Methodist Church, 145 Main St., Nashua. The Christmas concert is a collaboration with youthful dancers from the Kathy Blake Studio in Nashua. Visit nashuaflutechoir.com. At the holiday show, guests are requested to donate \$15 each.

• **Shows that aren't holiday-related:** It's hard to find something that's not glitzed with reindeer, sleighs, candy canes or some sort of holiday message, but there are a few to look forward to. The Hampstead Stage Company will perform *Treasure Island* at the Lawrence Barn, 28 Depot Road, Hollis, on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 2 p.m.; The Merrimack Repertory Theatre shows *Half 'N Half 'N Half* at the Nancy Donahue Theatre (50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell, 978-654-4678) Thursday, Nov. 29, through Sunday, Dec. 23 (tickets \$20). Derry hosts *Martha Speaks* on Monday, Dec. 3, at 10 a.m., at the Stockbridge Theatre, 44 N. Main St.,

Derry, stockbridgetheatre.com (437-5210). And on Thursday, Dec. 6, Friday, Dec. 7, and Saturday, Dec. 8, you can see *As You Like It* at the Nashua North auditorium (10 Chuck Druding Drive, Nashua, tickets \$5). See? The holidays aren't everywhere. Yet.

• **Art you see, art you hear:** Folks at the Currier Museum of Art are seeking experienced musicians to perform during their First Thursdays series of programming, scheduled for the first Thursday of each month, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Singers and musicians of all genres will be considered, from jazz and world music to classical and bluegrass. Email lfox@currier.org, along with the name of the artist or band, bandmate names; a primary contact name; email address and phone number; one sentence describing the musical genre; a representative MP3 file; a link to a band website, Facebook page, Myspace or YouTube page; and a selected list of locations of previous performances. Applications are taken on a rolling basis. Visit currier.org/eventsprograms.

• **Another re-scheduling:** Baroque was supposed to be back on Nov. 3, but the evening was hampered by street closures. The Granite State Symphony Orchestra Concert "Baroque is Back" is rescheduled for Saturday, Jan. 26, at 8 p.m., at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Visit gssso.org. —*Kelly Sennott*

Theatre (50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass., 978-654-4678, mrt.org) Nov. 29-Dec. 23. Shows are on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Visit mrt.org for showtimes. Tickets start at \$20.

• **YOUTH REPERTORY COMPANY WINTER SHOWCASE** features scenes and monologues from some of Shakespeare's most famous works Fri., Nov. 30, at 7 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 1, at 2 and 7 p.m., at 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. Call 431-6644, ext. 5, or email reservations@nhtheatreproject.org. Free.

• **MARTHA SPEAKS** on Mon., Dec. 3, at 10 a.m., at Stockbridge Theatre, 44 N. Main St., Derry, stockbridgetheatre.com. Musical based on the book by Susan Meddaugh. Tickets are \$8 (\$6 for students and seniors). Call 437-5210.

• **AS YOU LIKE IT** at Nashua North Auditorium (10 Chuck Druding Drive, Nashua) on Thurs., Dec. 6, Fri., Dec. 7, and Sat., Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. Tickets \$5 at the door.

Auditions/open calls

• **AUDITIONS** for Nashua Theatre Guild's Five Women Wearing the Same Dress on Thurs., Dec. 6, 6:30-8:45 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 8, 11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., in the East Wing of the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua). Rehearsals start in January. Email mikewoodnh@comcast.net.

• **AUDITIONS** for Branch River Theatre's *Henceforward* by Allan Ayckbourn on Mon., Dec. 10, 7-9 p.m., and Wed., Dec. 12, 7-9 p.m., at the Community House of Marlborough, 160 Main St., Marlborough. Call 878-2670 or email trouperwa@comcast.net.

• **CALL FOR SINGERS** for Rhythm of New Hampshire Show Chorus, which is seeking female singers to join a capella barbershop singing. Visit a Thursday rehearsal 6:45-9:15 p.m. at the Marion Gerrish Community Center (35 W. Broadway, Derry), call 800-696-7351 or visit rnhchorus.org.

• **CALLING MUSIC/CHOREOGRAPHY DIRECTORS** to those interested in directing Nashua's Actorsingers' spring production of *Curtains*. Email cover letter and resume to secretary@actorsingers.org.

Workshops/other

• **COMMUNITY DRUMMING** on the 2nd and 3rd Thursday of the month, 4:45-5:45 p.m., at Queen City Ballroom, 21 Dow St., 2nd floor, Manchester, 647-0622, thevillagedrum@aol.com. Class costs \$15.

• **SO YOU THINK YOU CAN'T TAP** for adults on Wednesdays, 8:15-9:15 p.m. at Actorsingers Hall, 219 Lake St., Nashua. Cost

is \$30. Email amyfriedman1@yahoo.com.

• **NH THEATRE PROJECT** is holding workshops, classes, theater camps, a membership drive and more. Call 431-6644, or visit nhtheatreproject.org.

• **PLAYREADING CIRCLE** most second Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rodgerslibrary.org.

ART LISTINGS

Art events

• **FURNITURE IN THE CURRIER'S COLLECTION AND WHITE MOUNTAIN BREAKFRONT** Thurs., Nov. 29, at 11:30 a.m., at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org, 669-6144. Tour to examine Currier's furniture collection in depth. Free with admission.

• **APPRAISAL AND ASSESSMENT DAY** Fri., Nov. 30, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord. Bring paintings and prints to be appraised. Free. Call 225-2515 or visit mcgowanfineart.com.

• **EVOLVING EXPRESSIONS OF SPIRITUALITY IN ART** tour at the Currier Museum Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org, 669-6144, on Fri., Nov. 30, at 11:30 a.m. Free with museum admission.

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Which road do you take?

Derry artists' interpretations of Frost's famous poems

By Kelly Sennott
 ksennott@hippopress.com

Forester and artist Ingaborg Seaboyer always felt a connection to Robert Frost's poetry. Particularly these lines:

*Two roads diverged in a wood and I--
 I took the one less traveled by,
 And that has made all the difference.*

So when she joined with fellow Derry artists Corrinne Dodge and Judy Krassowski in creating art inspired by Frost's "The Road Not Taken," she painted a picture of herself.

"One of the first things we did was decide on one poem that we were all going to interpret, which was 'The Road Not Taken.' In my case, I've always felt the connection to that poem by being a woman in a largely male profession, and I wound up creating a portrait of myself in my forestry gear, drilling into a tree," she said in a phone interview.

The painting is one of about 20 Frost-inspired works on display at the Pantano Gallery at Southern New Hampshire University.

The project began last summer, when Derry Public Library's adult services went through renovation. It closed for a period and re-opened in September 2011, incorporating Robert Frost in the decor, with leafy designs to celebrate Frost's poem "Birches." During this period of renovation, Dodge came up with the idea to create Frost-inspired art.

Three works represent the road less traveled. Corrinne Dodge had a more literal take on the poem than Seaboyer did. Dodge's painting depicts an old man at a fork on a woody trail. She had intended that this painting be modeled on a snapshot she took on the Derry-Windham Rail Trail of a middle-aged man. But her brushes had a mind of their own. "When I attempted to draw a middle-aged man briskly walking as in the photo, I found myself unable to do so. Over and over I erased and penciled again. No luck. Instead, I continued to draw what appeared to me to be a very elderly man shuffling on," she wrote in an artist's statement. "It occurred to me that my piece was not so much about the 'two roads diverging in a yellow wood,' but rather, 'I shall be telling this with a sigh/Somewhere ages and ages hence.'"

One of Dodge's larger drawings is "Stopping by Woods." It's intricately drawn from a horseback rider's perspective; in the pen and ink, we see, "My little horse must think it queer/To stop without a farmhouse near/Between the woods and frozen lake/The darkest evening of the year," with a snowy scene.



A self-portrait by Ingaborg Seaboyer in her interpretation of "The Road Not Taken." Courtesy photo.

See it

"The Road Not Taken" by Corrinne Dodge, Judy Krassowski, and Ingaborg Seaboyer can be viewed until Dec. 28 at the SNHU Pantano Gallery at the library, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester.

If you miss this exhibition, catch it later this year; the art is booked until June, Dodge said, set to decorate the walls at the Hampstead Public Library, the Mary E. Bartlett Library in Brentwood, the Fremont Public Library (tentatively), and the Audubon Society in Auburn.

Krassowski, an art teacher at Trinity High School, says her work is less traditional than Dodge's and Seaboyer's. "The works that I have are more emotionally driven. They're more nostalgic, off the beaten trail," she said. One of her pieces, inspired by "Fire and Ice," depicts a mountainous landscape with a hiker, a fire and a woman in a white dress.

"There's always an intent, but you bring your experience and your own personal interpretations to things," Krassowski said of her paintings on Frost's poetry.

The artists hope that visitors will be inspired to read or reread some of Frost's work.

As a Derry resident, Krassowski said it's difficult not to be familiar with Robert Frost; he taught at Pinkerton Academy, and the Robert Frost Farm, home to his family from 1900-1911, is on Rockingham Road in Derry.

"I'd like to see the exhibit continue through New Hampshire, to get the work in as many libraries as we can," Krassowski said. "It would also be great, if people have Robert Frost-related work, for them to add to the exhibit as well."

• **Wonder Made construction:** The arts collective in Concord (19 Warren St., Concord) is renovating to include a boutique in the midst of its handmade consignment shop. "We're going to build a dressing room in the back and have more of a boutique area there, while keeping more handmade gifts in the front," said Jessica Santacruce, one of Wonder Made's originators. They're looking to collect more handmade clothes, Santacruce said. Keep tabs on their Facebook page (www.facebook.com/WonderMadeNH) to keep updated on their progress.

• **What does art mean to you?** Calling artistic high school seniors: The New Hampshire Institute of Art is holding a video scholarship competition. Applicants are requested to record a video about what art means to them, and enter the running for a first-, second- or third-place scholarship award to NHIA's BFA program. Applicants must be graduating high school seniors with original content. Videos should not be more than 60 seconds long. Applicants must complete applications to the BFA program by Monday, Dec. 3, which is also when videos must be uploaded onto the NHIA's Facebook page. Visit nhia.edu, email admissions@nhia.edu or call 836-2589.

◀ 17 • **CAPITAL AREA ARTISANS FAIR** is on Sat., Dec. 1, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at Presidential Oaks, 200 Pleasant St., Concord. Designer mantle displays, pictures with Santa, handmade, fresh wreaths and decorated tree displays.

• **ALTERNATIVE CRAFT FAIR** on Sat., Dec. 15, in Newmarket Mills, first-floor lobby, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Call for vendors for art, craft, vintage, vinyl, zines, books, comics, clothing, etc., that are unique, unconventional or weird. Email samanthapaulini@gmail.com.

• **ART 'ROUND TOWN** is held the first Friday of the month (year round) from 5 to 8 p.m. in downtown Portsmouth. Visit artroundtown.org.

• **FIRST THURSDAYS** The Currier Museum of Art is open late 5:30-7:30 p.m., first Thursday of each month with programs including live music, lectures and film, at 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org.

• **GOOD NEIGHBOR SERIES** Sharon Arts Center is hosting a series of cultural programs at its Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough, 924-7676, sharonarts.org. Series will feature presentations by professional artists on the first and third Saturdays of the month, 7-9:30 p.m.

• **PICKER ART GALLERY** will host an open studio/meet the artists day on the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at

the Picker Building, 99 Factory St. Extension, Nashua, 305-6256.

• **THE PISCATAQUA DECORATIVE ARTS SOCIETY** presents its 10th season of lectures and events. Visit pdasociety.org.

• **ZIMMERMAN HOUSE** open for public tours, leaving from the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org). Offered twice daily. Reservations required. Cost is \$8-\$20, includes same-day museum admission.

Exhibit openings

• **HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS** exhibition at Frisella Fine Art Studio (26 Old Manchester Road, Candia, frisellafineart.com). Opening reception Sat., Nov. 24, 2-7 p.m., and Sun., Nov. 25, 2-5 p.m. Wine and hors d'oeuvres. On view through Dec. 29.

• **BOB JANULES** is December artist of the month at Nashua Area Artists Association for December; his work will be displayed in the mayor's office.

In the galleries

• **ALHAN IRWIN** shows her biology- and Middle Eastern-inspired art at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610) through December during regular library hours.

• **ANNICK BOUVRON-GROMEK** exhibit runs through November at the Seacoast Artist

• **Tour at the Currier:** "White Mountain Breakfront," a collaborative work by New Hampshire furniture master David Lamb and painter James Aponovich, offers a great opportunity to examine Currier Museum of Art furniture collections in greater depth. There's much to know, and visitors can learn on a guided focus tour, "Furniture in the Currier's Collection and White Mountain Breakfront," on Thursday, Nov. 29, at 11:30 a.m., at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org). This tour is free with museum admission of \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors, \$8 for students, free for children younger than 18. Visit currier.org or call 669-6144.

• **1000 Museums:** Speaking of the Currier, the museum is now part of "1,000 Museums," a provider of archival reproductions of artwork from the world's greatest museums and collections. This affiliation makes it easier for patrons to purchase and order prints from the museum's collection, said Director of Development Christine Louis. "Not every piece from the collection is available in print there, but we'll continue to add to that over time," Louis said in a phone interview. Art collectors can check out the now-affiliated website on the Currier Museum's homepage.

—Kelly Sennott

Association gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter. Call 583-5293 or visit seacoastartist.org.

• **AUDREY GOLDSTEIN** shows "Issues of Trust" exhibit at the Southern New Hampshire University McIninch Art Gallery (2500 N. River Road, Manchester, 629-4622, snhu.edu/art) through Dec. 15.

• **BIG GIFTS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES** on display at The Gallery (225 Water St., Exeter, 778-8856, gallery@seacoastartist.org) through December.

• **"BREAKING THE MOLD"** at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, 225-2515, featuring work by Shandra McLane and Susan Wahlrab, Nov. 13 through Dec. 14. Visit mcgowanfineart.com.

• **CHESS ART EXHIBIT** with chess art by award-winning artist Cliff Gillis on display at Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org. On display until Dec. 14.

• **CHRISTIANE HILBRIG-TAURONEY** is Exeter Fine Crafts' artist of the month; her work is on display through November at 61 Water St., Exeter. Call 778-8282.

• **COLBY-SAWYER COLLEGE FINE ARTS FACULTY EXHIBIT** new works in diverse media exhibition through Dec. 14 at Colby-Sawyer, 541 Main St., New London, 526-3000. Draw-

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ing, ceramics, photography, printmaking, sculpture.

- **DOWNTON ABBEY: THE PORTSMOUTH CONNECTION** exhibit shows at Portsmouth Athenaeum's Randall Gallery (9 Market Square), through Dec. 1. Visit portsmouthathenaeum.org or call 431-2538.
- **DUTCH AND FLEMISH MASTERWORKS** from the Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Collection through February at Currier Museum of Art, Manchester, currier.org.
- **ERIC SANFORD – PHOTOGRAPHER** exhibit at the Discover Gallery in the Millyard Museum (200 Bedford St., Manchester) is on view through Dec. Hours are Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **FENTON ART GLASS EXHIBIT** on display at the Florence Speare Museum, 5 Abbott St., Nashua, on display through January. Hosted by the Nashua Historical Society, loaned by society member Peter Vincent. Call 883-0015.
- **“GLIMMER OF LIGHT”** landscape painting by Lauren Sansaricq on view through Dec. 6 at Chapel Art Center (100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7470).
- **“IT’S ALL ABOUT CLAY”** exhibit at Mill Brook Gallery and Sculpture Garden (236 Hopkinton Road, Concord, themillbrookgallery.com) through Dec. 24. Call 226-2046.
- **“NATURE AT YOUR DOORSTEP”** exhibit at Amherst Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, throughout November. Featuring nature photography by Sherie Dowsett. Call 672-1700.
- **“NEW HAMPSHIRE AND THE AMERICAN STUDIO CRAFT MOVEMENT”** exhibit open through Dec. 30 at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org.
- **PAINTINGS AND PUPPETS** with Teresa Moler at the RE/MAX Properties Gallery, 2 Ash St., Hollis, through November.
- **“POINTS OF VIEW”** exhibit at Art 3 Gallery (44 W. Brook St., Manchester, 668-6650), through Jan. 25.
- **PRINTMAKING IN THE AGE OF REMBRANDT** at Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester) until Jan. 6.
- **RICHARD W. KOCH** shows his wood-carved art at Pelham Public Library through November. Call 635-7581 or visit pelhampubliclibrary.org.
- **RON PLANTE** is artist of the month at Nashua Area Arts Association, and his work will be displayed in the mayor's office through November.
- **STACEY LUCAS** or “Veggie Art Girl” shows “Trash to Treasure” at The Studio, 50 Canal St., Laconia, through the holiday season. Call 455-9009 or visit thestudionh.com or vegieartgirl.com.
- **“TOMORROW’S MASTERPIECES”** on display through Dec. 2 at Hopkinton Historical Society, 300 Main St., Hopkinton. Call 746-3825.
- **THE ROAD NOT TAKEN** fine art exhibit on display at Southern New Hampshire University's Pantano Gallery (2500 N. River Road, Manches-

ter) through Dec. 28. Call 644-3120, visit snhu.edu.

- **“TWEET”** shows at the Framers Market (1301 Elm St., Manchester) through Nov. 30, featuring local artists Rosemary Conroy, Karen Bessette, Lorraine Kulik and numerous national printmaking artists. Call 668-6989.
- **“VOTE”** exhibition at East Colony Fine Art (Langer Place, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester) through Nov. 27. Call 621-7400, visit eastcolony.com.
- **WATSON FARM PROJECT** on exhibit at Kimball Jenkins (266 N. Main St., Concord) through Fri., Nov. 30. Gallery hours Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit kimballjenkins.com.
- **ART IN THE MILL** rotating exhibit of artwork in the UNH Manchester library (400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4101, manchester.unh.edu/campuslife/public-programs/art-mill) presents photographs from Greece and Turkey by NH Institute of Art graduate Elizabeth Ellenwood. Free.
- **NEW RETROSPECTIVE WORKS** by Roger Croteau at Hatfield Gallery, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 627-7560. Open Tues., Thurs. and Fri., 9:30 a.m.
- **SUE WHITTAKER** shows her exhibit “Viewable Nudes” at Wine Studio (53 Hooksett Road, Manchester) through November. Call 622-9463.
- **THE WINTER GALLERY** exhibit at The Gallery (225 Water St., Exeter, 778-8856, gallery@seacoastartist.org) features work by the Seacoast Artist Association displaying wintry works of art. On display through the first week of January.
- **WINCHESTER ART** by Harriet Winchester, Liz Winchester-Larson and Stephen Winchester showcase their work at the Amherst Town Library (14 Main St., Amherst) from December through mid-January.
- **YODHISTHIR (YODHI) MAHARJAN AND NATHAN MYATT** exhibit their work, “The Art of Not Making Art” and “A Visual Documentation of the Urban Persona,” respectively, at The New England College Gallery, 98 Bridge St., Henniker, through Dec. 4. Call 428-2329.

CLASSICAL LISTINGS Concerts

- **NH PHILHARMONIC HOLIDAY POPS** at the Stockbridge Theatre, 44 N. Main St., Derry, stockbridgetheatre.com, on Sat., Nov. 24, at 7:30 p.m. Call 437-5210 for ticket prices.
- **ROB DIONNE** of the Majestic Theatre performs a holiday edition of his piano/vocal cabaret on Sat., Nov. 24, at the Samuel and May Gruber Recital Hall at Manchester Community Music School, 2291 Elm St., Manchester. General admission tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Refreshments will be available. Call 669-7469 or visit majestictheatre.net.
- **GALA SCOTTISH CONCERT** on Sun., Nov. 25, at 2:30 p.m., at Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord, 673-5145). Highland Soles with fiddle superstar Ed Pearlman, piano prodigy Neil Pearlman

BRING YOUR REQUESTS



Gather 'round the piano this Saturday for Rob Dionne's evening of holiday music at the Samuel and May Gruber Recital Hall at the Manchester Community Music School, 2291 Elm St., Manchester. The show is on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 7 p.m. Co-founder and Artistic Director of the Majestic Theatre, he performs his piano/vocal cabaret year-round in New Hampshire, Boston and Ogunquit, singing everything from standards to showtunes, Elton John to

easy-listening, whatever the crowd wants to hear. Bring holiday requests for this evening show; general admission tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Call 669-7469 or visit majestictheatre.net.

NO KILTS REQUIRED



Give thanks for Irish music this weekend, with fiddles, pianos, Celtic tunes and dance. On Sunday, Nov. 25, at 2:30 p.m., the Strathspey and Reel Society of New Hampshire will highlight its Gala Scottish Concert with fiddle superstar Ed Pearlman, piano prodigy Neil Pearlman and Highland and Cape Breton dancer Laura Scott, at Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Tickets cost \$15 to \$22, and can be purchased by calling 673-5145 or by visiting srnsnh.org.

- and incomparable Highland and Cape Breton dancer Laura Scott will play. Tickets \$15-\$22.
- **DARK OF THE MOON** Two Rivers Community Choir benefit choral concert on Sun., Nov. 25, at 6:30 p.m., at Mariposa Museum, 24 Main St., Peterborough, mariposamuseum.org. Benefits the Keep Peterborough Warm Fund. Free admission, donations accepted.
- **25TH ANNUAL MESSIAH SING** rehearsals on Sunday, Nov. 25, 6:45-9 p.m., at Mont Vernon Congregational Church at the top of Route 13 on S. Main St., Mont Vernon. Two performances: Sat., Dec. 1, at 7 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 2, at 4 p.m. No tickets sold; free-will offering taken at performances. Call 673-3510.
- **PROFILE CHORUS OPEN SING** events for women of all experiences Mon., Nov. 26, 7-9 p.m. Introduction to four-part harmony singing and opportunity to sing at upcoming holiday performances, at Nashua Holiday Stroll on Nov. 24 and Strawberry

- Banke Candlelight Stroll on Dec. 1. Call 858-0002 or email membership@profilechorus.org.
- **JAZZ PIANO POTPOURRI** at Bratton Recital Hall (30 Academic Way, Durham) on Wed., Nov. 28, at 8 p.m. Free. Call 862-2404 or visit unh.edu/music.
- **YING QUARTET** will perform at the Dana Center of Saint Anselm College (100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7720) on Thurs., Nov. 29, at 7 p.m. Call for ticket information.
- **CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS JAZZ** featuring the Eric Mintel Quartet on Fri., Nov. 30, at 7 p.m., at the Stockbridge Theatre, 44 N. Main St., Derry, stockbridgetheatre.com. Tickets are \$15. Call 437-5210.
- **ALPIN HONG** will perform in a concert featuring selections of American Romantic music at the Dana Center for Humanities, Saint Anselm College, on Fri., Nov. 30, at 7:30 p.m. Call 641-7700 or visit anselm.edu/dana.

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38 New restaurants!

High Street Farmhouse in Goffstown, The Kitchen and Masa in Manchester PLUS Weekly Dish; Red, White & Green (good bottles for less than \$20); Perishables, From the Pantry, Just Desserts and more.

Get Listed

From yoga to pilates, cooking to languages to activities for the kids, Hippo's weekly listing offers a rundown of all area events and classes. Get your program listed by sending information to listings@hippopress.com at least three weeks before the event.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE

No snow? No problem

Area resorts have big plans for ski season

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

Last year's mild winter proved that New Hampshire's snowy reputation can't be taken for granted, and area mountain resorts are responding with new features that they hope will draw crowds even if natural snow is minimal.

After the dismal natural snow production of last winter, Pats Peak in Henniker has added two new energy-efficient snow guns. Lori Rowell, director of marketing, said with the increased snowmaking capabilities, visitors will be able to better utilize some of the resort's other new features.

Skiers at Pats Peak will immediately notice a new entranceway with paved walkways, a stone wall and a heated warming area. An inflatable airbag will be set up so that skiers and riders can practice their jumps. Rowell said the airbag is similar to ones used for movie stunts.

Rowell said the resort has upgraded its rental equipment with gear made specifically for the beginner snowboarder. The Burton Learn to Ride equipment is now available for rent and features snowboards designed to decrease the chance of catching an edge and boots designed with more flexibility.

"They want people to be able to link their turns during their first lesson," Rowell said.

Rowell said the staff at Pats Peak is particularly excited about being the first New Hampshire mountain to obtain the Learn to Ride Gear designed specifically for women. And Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. at the mountain, all-female snowboarding classes will be available.

"They will be taught by a woman instructor, and people can learn by using equipment made for women," she said.

At Crotched Mountain, resort operators want to make sure visitors can get to the summit even faster than they can make it down. Pat Terry, the mountain's general manager, said "The Crotched Rocket" will open for the first time this season and will be able to bring passengers to the top of the

mountain in less than four minutes.

As the only mountain in southern New Hampshire with a high-speed lift, Terry said the quick ride will help Crotched Mountain become an even more popular destination.

"By putting in the new high-speed quad, it also includes an expansion of the ski area by adding an additional 25 acres," he said.

The three new trails and new glade area that will be added in the expansion will also be fully lighted, in keeping with having a 100-percent lighted ski resort. Terry said by having a fully lit mountain, Midnight Madness, the resort's signature event, remains a big draw for Crotched.

"Midnight Madness is the big thing everybody knows us for," Terry said. "The bottom line is that every Friday and Saturday night in January and February, we stay open until 3 a.m., with a slopeside bonfire [and] live entertainment."

Terry said this year an airbag will be brought to Crotched on select weekends. He said those weekends have not been decided yet but will be posted to www.crotchedmountain.com when they are announced.

In the Queen City, McIntyre Ski Area vice president and general manager Ross Boisvert said a new trail is in the works. A new terrain park-type trail will branch off from an existing trail to provide skiers and snowboarders with additional challenges on their way down the mountain.

Other new additions at McIntyre include a Burton Riglet Park for young snowboarders, which will feature retractable mechanisms that attach to a child's snowboard so he can be towed along by a more experienced teacher. A new Tuesday evening corporate race league will allow teams of varying sizes to show off their speed.

"It will make for some friendly competition," Boisvert said.

Though an opening date is not set in stone, Boisvert said the hope is for either the first or second week in December. But before the slopes open for the season, a rail jam is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 24, from 1 to 4 p.m.

"We're going to truck in ice



The new entrance plaza at Pats Peak features paved walkways and a warming area. Courtesy photo.

shavings from a local arena and have a competition," he said.

Gilford's Gunstock Mountain Resort is celebrating its 75th anniversary this winter, and Bill Quigley, director of marketing, said the mountain's terrain park will be undergoing changes throughout the season. Quigley said the park will be reset differently than in the past and new trails will be popping up throughout the winter.

Quigley said Gunstock has partnered with Lakes Region Disabled Sports, which will encourage disabled residents of the area to access the mountain and participate in winter sports.

"It's for those people that want to come out and learn how to fly again," he said. "When someone in some state of paralysis can come out with their friends and family, it's a pretty massive thing."

Gunstock will also feature an air bag this year, and on weekends, Quigley said, the mountain will open up its Zip Tours. Quigley said the ziplines are the fourth-longest in the world and provide great views of the mountain, crossing directly over the trails.

Loon Mountain, one of the state's largest resorts, is taking no chances with snow production. Greg Kwasnik, the communications manager at the mountain, said 42 new snow guns will have a home on South Peak. Kwasnik said Loon has more than doubled its snowmaking productivity since 2010, making life easier for the resort's snowmakers and the trails more enjoyable for its customers.

"This gives our snowmakers more flexibility of when and where they can work," Kwasnik said. "They don't have to spend time lugging the snow guns across the mountain."

Kwasnik said two new terrain parks will be open this year for some of the youngest visitors. The Burton Riglet Park has been designed with a Paul Bunyan theme for snowboarders as young as 3.

To open the season, Kwasnik said, two rail jams will help get skiers and snowboarders into the swing of things. On Friday, Nov. 23, the mountain will host a rail jam for skiers, and on Saturday, Nov. 24, snowboarders will have a jam of their own.

"It will be a fun early season rail jam to dust off the cobwebs," he said. 🍷

Local ski areas

• **Pats Peak**

686 Flanders Road, Henniker

Opening: Target is first weekend in December

Lift tickets: \$26 to \$60. Visit www.patspeak.com or call 428-3245.

• **Crotched Mountain**

615 Francetown Road, Bennington

Opening: Target is first weekend in December

Lift tickets: \$28 to \$59. Visit www.crotchedmountain.com or call 588-3668.

• **McIntyre Ski Area**

50 Chalet Way, Manchester

Opening: Target is first or second weekend in December

Lift tickets: \$14 to \$34. Visit www.mcintyreskiarea.com or call 622-6159.

• **Gunstock Mountain Resort**

719 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford

Opening: Target is Friday, Nov. 30

Lift tickets: Range from \$30 to \$72. Visit www.gunstock.com or call 293-4341.

• **Loon Mountain**

60 Loon Mountain Road, Lincoln

Opening: Opened Saturday, Nov. 17

Lift tickets: \$79. Visit www.loon-mtn.com or call 745-8111.

STARRY WEEKEND



Visit Hopkinton and Contoocook for a Starry Starry Weekend, Friday, Nov. 30, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Artisans, merchants and craft-makers will be open for shopping, food and a variety of holiday activities. Hopkinton Village will host a tree lighting on Saturday, Dec. 1, starting at 4 p.m., followed by Contoocook's tree lighting at 5 p.m. Visit www.starrystarryweekend.com.

CHILDREN & TEENS

Events

• **HOLIDAY GIFT CRAFT** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua), Tues., Nov. 27, at 4 p.m. For ages 6-10. Visit the library to create a holiday-themed craft. Call 589-4600.

• **FEEDING BIRDS IN YOUR BACKYARD** at Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester) Wed., Nov. 28, 9:30-11 a.m. and 12:30-2 p.m. Go on a bird walk, learn how birds live through the winter and make a bird feeder to bring home. Cost is \$5, registration required. Call 626-3474 or visit amoskeagfishways.org.

• **PICTURES WITH SANTA** at Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson), Saturday, Dec. 1, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Meet Santa and snack on milk and cookies. Call 886-6030 or visit www.rodgerslibrary.org.

• **HOLIDAY STORYTIME AND CRAFT** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua), Thurs., Dec. 6, at 1 p.m., for ages 2 through 5 and at 4 p.m., for ages 6-10. Visit the library for stories, a puppet show and a holiday craft. Call 589-4600.

• **GO WILD WITH CRAFTS** at Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness), Sat., Dec. 8, 10-11:30 a.m. For ages 4 and older. Turn items from nature into a craft. Admission is \$9 per child. Call 968-7194 or visit www.nhnhnate.org.

• **SANTA IN THE PARK** at Greeley Park Gazebo in Nashua, Sun., Dec. 9, noon-2 p.m. Come for photos and gifts for a select number of children. Admission is free. Call 589-3370.

Teen/tween events

• **PLAY DATE NH** invites youth age 12-18 to learn, play and enjoy new card, strategy and board games at area libraries. Semi-professional gaming geeks will be on hand to mentor new players in classic and modern games. See playdatenh.com. Game days are hosted on the second Saturday of each month, noon to 4 p.m., at Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson, rodgerslibrary.org, 886-6030).

• **ANIME CLUB** for ages 12-18 at the Hollis Social Library on the last Monday of every month, 2:30-4:15 p.m.

• **ANIME CLUB** for ages 12-17 at Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, first Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. Discuss anime or manga series, participate in games and activities, and display your anime sketches in the teen room. Call 589-4612 or visit tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **ANIME CLUB** at Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester. Meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Open to grades 6-12. Play cards, watch movies, discuss favorite characters, and draw. Call Kate Norton at 624-6550, ext. 335, or email knorton@manchester.nh.gov for details.

• **ANIME AND MANGA CLUB** at the Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton), first Wednesday of the month at 3:30 p.m. Club for teenagers to discuss, watch and draw Japanese-style comics and animation. Call 654-2581 or visit www.wiltonlibrarynh.org.

• **ANIME/MANGA CLUB** at Rodgers Memorial Library (194

Derry Road, Hudson) meets on the third Monday of each month at 2:30 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. Call 886-6030.

• **BALLROOM DANCING** for ages 11-19 at Queen City Ballroom, 21 Dow St., Manchester. To sign up, email qnctybalrm@aol.com or call 622-1500. Visit queencityballroomnh.com.

• **BOOK DISCUSSIONS FOR TEENS** at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) on the last Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m. Each month will have a theme, but participants can choose the book. Call 589-4610, email teens@nashualibrary.org or visit www.tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **BOOKS AND BITES** Talk books and eat food at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. A new theme each week. Call 589-4610, email teens@nashualibrary.org or visit www.tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **CECILIA ENSEMBLE** High school-age section of the Peterborough Children's Choir is open to girls grades 9-12 who can meet for practice Mondays 4-5:30 p.m. at Peterborough Unitarian Church on Main Street. There are requirements for singing ability and self-motivation. Contact Maria Belva at 924-2055 or maribelva@gmail.com. pcchoir.org.

• **CHICKS WITH STICKS BOOK CLUB** Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, meets monthly on Thursdays, 3 p.m. in the AV Room. For grades 7 and up, this club invites participants to bring their current knitting projects, enjoy snacks and book discussions. New members and beginner knitters are welcome. Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **FANTASY BOOK CLUB** held on the first Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. at Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, hollis.nh.us/library. For ages 8-13. For kids who love reading fantasy books about dragons, magic, the future and more. Free and open to the public.

• **GEEKS R US ANIME CLUB** for teens at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, meets monthly on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. in the Keyes Meeting Room. Hang out and discuss your favorite anime or manga series, games and activities. Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **JR. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY** Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, for grades 5 and up, on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. Children can help organize, plan and run special family, children's and summer reading programs. They can earn volunteer hours. Sign up at hollislibrary.org.

• **MONDAY NIGHT SCRABBLE** every week, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Hollis Social Library,

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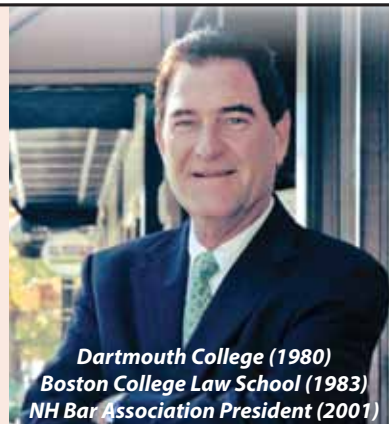
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INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,

I am hoping you can be of some help. We found this in my dad's garage when we were cleaning it out, and it looked to be very well-constructed and old so we kept it. It's 13 by 7½ inches and 4 inches tall. Now we are just trying to clean it up and figure out what it is. My husband and I both just started collecting antiques, so we want to try to learn about the items we have in our home. If you can help please let me know. y,

Carol and Bill

Dear Carol,

Your red painted box is a sweet one with great dovetailing. The maker of this did a great job.

It is tough to know what it was used for originally. I can tell you it appears to be a knife box without a handle. It appears to be from the early 19th century, and the paint does look original, so be very careful not to wash it off.

Let's say it was a knife box and the drop cover compartment was for a sharpening stone. How sweet would that have been for practicality? Again, it could have been made for a different specific purpose, but my guess, based on appearance, is that it was for the kitchen. I think in today's decorating it would fit in just as well for a knife box.

The value on it comes from its age, color and condition. Usefulness helps too, and rarity. So I would say that you have a 19th-century utility box in original red paint with dovetailing. The value on it would be in the \$150-to-\$200 range to a collector. This is a great piece to start off your collecting with.

Just a word of advice to all young collectors: Be careful in choosing what you collect, and do research on what is out there. Make sure you deal with people you can trust to give you the correct informa-



tion. Read, go online, but make sure you know what you are doing before you make a large investment.

A man told me when I first started collecting, collect what you like, but once a year make an investment for your children's college. Buy something that will do nothing but increase in value over time. To do this today, you really have to be careful, because there is so much out there that is reproduced.

Buying anything antique is truly an investment, so I say always decorate when you can with antiques and then find something awesome to collect.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (www.fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser, an instructor and a licensed auctioneer. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or e-mail her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668). 🍌

465-7721, hollislibrary.org. Join young adults for some fun rounds of this classic word game. Invite a partner. Bring a Scrabble board, if possible.

• **NH INSTITUTE OF ART** (148 Concord St., Manchester, 866-241-4918, nhia.edu) offers classes for high school students college credit. Prices vary depending on type of class and materials needed.

• **TEEN COOKING CLUB** at Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester, meets monthly on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Teens ages 11-18 are welcome to learn the basics of cooking, make their favorite dishes and explore new types of food. All materials will be provided. Club meets in the Winchell Room. Call 624-6550.

• **TEEN MUSIC CLASSES** at Music Together of Milford, 102 Elm St., Milford, on Mondays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Advanced and

intermediates welcome to acoustic music class led by Amy Conley. Cost is \$10/session. Adults also welcome. Call 249-9560 to register. Visit amyconleymusic.com.

• **TEEN PIZZA & PAGES** at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, meets monthly on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. For grades 5 and up. Enjoy pizza while discussing a book. Copies available on the teen display. Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **TEEN TORCH: GLASS GALORE** at Sharon Arts Center School of Art & Craft (457 Rt. 123, Sharon), Tuesdays through Dec. 4, 3-5 p.m. Learn how to create art from glass using a torch. Enrollment is \$162 with a \$50 materials fee. Call 924-7256, email register@sharonarts.org or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• **TWEEN TUESDAYS** every Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the meet-

ing room at the Hollis Social Library. Choose from Fantasy Book, Game Club, Craft Days, Book Buddies, or do all four. Fantasy Book Club is on the first Tuesday of every month and designed for kids who love reading fantasy books. Books provided at each meeting for the following month. Game Club is on the second Tuesday of every month and includes Wii, board games and snacks. Craft Days are the third Tuesday of every month. Book Buddies is the fourth Tuesday of every month and includes planning story times and crafts for preschool children. Read at after-school storytime and family pajama time.

• **WII DAYS FOR TEENS** at Hollis Social Library, every other Friday, 3 p.m., for ages 12-18. Snacks and drinks provided. Sign up at the circulation desk.

• **TEEN WRITERS GROUP** at Derry Public Library (64 E.

Broadway, Derry), bi-weekly. Check calendar for times. Learn about story development and listen to others' stories. Call 432-6140 or visit www.derry.lib.nh.us.

- **TEEN WRITING CLUB** at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford. Free-write for the first half-hour, then read aloud (you can bring in anything you've been working on at home for this part). Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.
- **WRITER'S BLOCK** is a group of aspiring writers who meet up every Saturday in the Library Meeting Room at the Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis. Call 456-7728 after 5 p.m.

CRAFTS

Fairs/Exhibits

- **EVERGREEN FAIR** at the Memorial Union Building at the University of New Hampshire (83 Main St., Durham), Thurs., Nov. 29, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Fri., Nov. 30, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 1, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fifty artists and craftsmen will be on hand and there will be live music. Admission is free. Call 934-6248, email evergreenfair@hotmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/evergreenfair.
- **GIRL SCOUT CRAFT FAIR** at St. Joseph's Church (777 W. Hollis St., Nashua), Fri., Nov. 30,

5:30-8 p.m. All crafts made by girls and cost \$8 or less. Proceeds benefit the Girl Scouts.

- **CRAFT AND VENDOR FAIR** at the Alpine Club (175 Putnam St., Manchester) Sun., Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Check out crafts, jewelry and baked goods. Pay \$3 at the door for a raffle ticket for door prizes.
- **HOLLYTOWN FAIR** at the Arlington Street United Methodist Church (63 Arlington St., Nashua), Sat., Dec. 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Check out crafts, jewelry, baked goods, a children's area and silent auctions. Contact Samantha at 882-2489 or sam-jean@comcast.net.
- **HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD CRAFT EXHIBIT** at the League of NH Craftsmen (49 N. Main St., Concord), through Wed., Dec. 12. Call 224-3375 or visit www.nhcrafts.org.

Knitting

- **BROOKLINE PUBLIC LIBRARY** (16 Main St., Brookline, 673-3330, brookline.nh.us) has a knitting, crocheting and cross-stitch group that meets Mondays at 6 p.m. The group is informal and drop-ins are welcome.
- **DROP-IN KNITTING CLUB** Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, every Tuesday, 3-4 p.m. Call 465-7721. Meet, mingle and trade yarns with local knitters. Compare

patterns, sharing techniques and trading tips. Drop in, no signup required.

- **DROP-IN STITCHERS** Fridays, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m., at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road (Route 102), Hudson. Work on knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching or any other needlework project with company, and pass the time while sharing ideas and techniques for future work. Call 886-6030.
- **THE ELEGANT EWE** (71 S. Main St., Concord, 226-0066, elegantewe.com) offers a variety of knitting classes and workshops, as well as classes in felting and spinning.
- **FRIDAY NIGHT KNITTING CLUB** every Friday 6-10 p.m. at the Yarn and Fiber Co. (11 Manchester Road, Derry, yarnandfiber.com). Open project, no fee. Bring an existing project or start a new one. Call 505-4432.
- **HOOKSETT PUBLIC LIBRARY** (31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org) hosts a learning-to-knit circle every Friday, 1-2 p.m., in the adult room of the library. Tea and coffee are served.
- **KELLEY LIBRARY** (234 Main St., Salem, 898-7064, kelleylibrary.org) has a knitting circle on Mondays at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays at 1 p.m. The gatherings are open to Salem knitters of all skill levels. Members offer tips

and share techniques. No registration is required. Crocheters are welcome, too.

- **KNIT 1, CROCHET 2** drop-in stitch-fests held at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, the first and fourth Mondays of each month, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Bring a project and be inspired. Beginners will be able to get help selecting a project and the necessary supplies. There won't be formal instruction, but members of the group help each other. Tea is served.
- **KNIT WITS** meets at Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., Chester, the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Work on a craft, chat with others and share knowledge. This group is open to all who like to sew, crochet, knit and/or stitch. Contact the library at 887-3404.
- **KNITTING CLUB** every Tuesday at the Hollis Social Library, 3-4 p.m. in the library meeting room. Meet, mingle and trade yarns with local knitters. Have fun comparing patterns, sharing techniques and trading tips on stitches, sweaters and mittens. Drop in, no signup required.
- **KNITTING CLUB** every Friday, at 11 a.m., at West Manchester Library, 76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560. Both experienced and novice knitters are invited to attend. No registra-

HOME TOUR



Take a tour of five Nashua homes that have been decorated for the holidays by professionals. On Saturday, Dec. 1, and Sunday, Dec. 2, from noon to 4 p.m., explore the homes' holiday décor. After the tour, enjoy an afternoon reception at the Hunt Community (10 Allds St., Nashua) from 2 to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door. Call 595-9156 or visit <http://symphonynh.org/events/event/holiday-house-tour>.

tion required.

- **NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY** (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org) hosts a knitting group every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **NEEDLES AND SHUTTLES** meets in The Fiber Studio, Foster Hill Road, Henniker. This informal group welcomes new and experienced knitters to share skills and conversation. Bring a knitting project. Call 428-7830.
- **NESMITH KNITTERS** meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Nesmith Library (8 Fel-

lows Road, Windham, 432-7154, nesmithlibrary.org). All skills and ages welcome.

- **NEW ENGLAND FABRICS** (55 Ralston St., Keene, 352-8683, newenglandfabrics.com) has offered classes in sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for the current schedule.
- **SOCKS ON A 12-INCH CIRCULAR NEEDLE** at the Yarn and Fiber Co. (11 Manchester Road, Derry, yarnandfiber.com) on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$40. Call 505-4432.

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Maxfield Parrish, *Freeman Farm: Winter*, 1935, oil on board. Currier Museum of Art.

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Holiday Specials

• Decorate your own ornament to hang on this year's Christmas tree. Visit the Weare Town Hall (15 Flanders Memorial Road, Weare) on Saturday, Nov. 24, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. for the **Weare Holiday Extravaganza**. Local vendors will be setting up displays and kids can enjoy a hot chocolate bar and a whole table full of supplies to make a holiday ornament. Call 529-7211, ext. 10, or visit www.wearechamber.org.

• Head to downtown Nashua for a traditional holiday experience with some new twists. The annual **Holiday Stroll** is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 24, from 5 to 10 p.m. Visit with Santa, watch ice sculptors in action and take in some live holiday music. New for this year, snowboarders will take to the streets at 6:30 p.m. for a rail jam at 225 Main St. Visit www.downtownnashua.org/holidaystroll.

• Santa will also be making an appearance in the Lakes Region this weekend when he visits the **Laconia Holiday Parade**. On Saturday, Nov. 24, the parade will make its way from Wyatt Park to Veteran's Square beginning at 1 p.m. Santa will work his way along the route, which will finish with the tree lighting in Veterans Square. Call 524-5531 or visit www.lakesregionchamber.org.

Branch out

• It's opening weekend of the fourth annual **Southern New Hampshire Festival of Trees**. Visit Shelburne Hall at the Municipal Building (6 Village Green Pelham) on Saturday, Nov. 24, for a full day of holiday activities. From 1 to 2 p.m., Romper Rhythms Puppet Show will be on hand to entertain. From 2 to 4 p.m., Santa and Mrs. Claus will be making an appearance, and from 6:30 to 8 p.m., you can enjoy holiday music by the Nashua Flute Choir. Admission is \$5 for adults, free for children younger than 12. Visit snhfestivaloftrees.pelhamcommunityspirit.org.

• **ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL** in Nashua is looking for volunteers to help knit or crochet comfort shawls for patients who may be seriously ill, undergoing medical procedures, emotionally or physically traumatized, seeking hope and healing or grieving. The need for shawls is ongoing and frequently the supply becomes depleted. Contact the Spiritual Care Department at St. Joseph Hospital at 882-3000, ext. 67800. You will receive more information and a brochure with both knitting and crocheting instructions.

• **YARN AND FIBER CO.** (11 Manchester Road, Derry, 505-4432, yarnandfiber.com) offers classes in knitting, as well as Friday night knitting club and classes focused on a single piece.

Quilting

• **AMETHYST ROSE QUILT SHOP** (37 Crystal Ave., Unit 5, Derry, theamethystrosequilts.com, 489-8161) offers open quilt times, project-specific classes and more.

• **AMOSKEAG QUILTERS**

• It's your last chance to check out the Bektash Shriners' **"Fez"tival of Trees**, which comes to an end Sunday, Nov. 25. Visit the Bektash Shrine Center (189 Pembroke Road, Concord) throughout the day to see the place packed with decorated artificial Christmas trees. Santa will be making a visit to the Shrine and lucky raffle winners will be able to take a tree home with them. Twenty raffle tickets cost \$5. Visit www.bektashshriners.org.

Stories and crafts

• Gingerbread houses are synonymous with the season, but the Goffstown Public Library (2 High St., Goffstown) is inviting families to **decorate a gingerbread train**. Head to the library on Friday, Nov. 23, at 2 p.m. and be ready to get creative. All materials will be supplied by the library. To register, call 497-2102, email pattip@goffstownlibrary.com or visit www.goffstownlibrary.com.

• Visit the Hooksett Public Library on Friday, Nov. 23, and get ready to get crafty. **Drop in and Craft** will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and families are invited to visit and create holiday crafts. Call 485-6092 or email etweedy@hooksettlibrary.org.

• Start Friday off right with a **story and a craft**, activity or project. Visit the Griffin Free Library (22 Hooksett Road, Auburn) Friday, Nov. 23, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. For young children and parents, this is a recurring Tuesday and Friday storytime. Call 483-5374 or visit www.griffinfree.com.

• Listen to a story, look at a work of art and then make some art of your own. **Storytime in the Gallery** at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester) is Monday, Nov. 26, at 11:30 a.m. Preschoolers are invited to listen to *In November* by Cynthia Rylant and then observe *Blue Pool* by Neil Welliver. The event will conclude with an art project to take home. Admission to the museum is \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors and free for children. Call 669-6144 or visit www.currier.org.

GUILD meets at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 14 Mammoth Road, Hooksett, on the third Thursday of each month, at 7 p.m. Email more.info@amoskeagqg.org or visit www.amoskeagqg.org.

• **BEDFORD FRIENDSHIP QUILT GUILD** meets the third Tuesday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the fellowship room of the Bedford Presbyterian Church to make quilts for children in Families in Transition. Call Pam Mikkola at 472-9225 or Lois Tourangeau at 424-0417.

• **THE CAPITAL QUILTERS GUILD** (capitalquiltersguild.org) holds meetings the second Friday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Havenwood Heritage Heights in Concord.

CLASSIC WOODEN GIFTS



Learn how to make classic holiday gifts using basic woodworking techniques. Local woodworker Stephen Carey will visit the Hooksett Public Library (31 Mount Saint Mary's Way) on Thursday, Nov. 29, at 6:30 p.m. The event is free of charge; Carey will demonstrate his techniques and display some of his items. Call 485-6092 or visit www.hooksettlibrary.org. Pictured: Stephen Carey. Courtesy photo.

BEAD YOUR OWN



If you have an interest in beading and want to give it a try, Bead Bush Studio (43 Mt. Delight Road, Deerfield) is offering a free Getting Started with Beading Class on Thursday, Nov. 29, from 6 to 9 p.m. Learn how to create a necklace with wire and crimps and earrings with headpins and a basic loop. Students are welcome to bring their

own supplies or purchase them from the Bead Bush Studio store. If you can't make it to this class, another will be offered on Wednesday, Dec. 12, from 1 to 4 p.m. Call 463-7683 or visit www.beadbush.com.

The Guild also offers classes.

- **THE CHESTNUT QUILTER** (167 Londonderry Turnpike, Hooksett, 647-8458, thechestnutquilter.com) offers Monday and Wednesday morning classes from 9 a.m. to noon that cost \$15 per session.
- **GIRLS NIGHT OUT** at Pine Tree Quilt Shop (224 N. Broadway, Salem, pinetreequiltshop.com) on Saturdays 5-10 p.m. Cost is \$15 per month. Call 870-8100.
- **HANNAH DUSTIN QUILT GUILD** meets at Hudson Community Center, 12 Lions Ave., Hudson. Meetings are on the first Monday of the month through June. Go to hannahdustingq.org or call Elyse at 635-7436.
- **KEARSARGE QUILTERS** meet on the second Tuesday of each month, 1-3 p.m., at Main-Street BookEnds (16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreet-bookends.com)
- **NASHUA SEW AND VAC** (228 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-2757, nashuasewandvac.com) offers classes in quilting and sewing, including classes for

children.

- **NEW ENGLAND FABRICS** (55 Ralston St., Keene, 352-8683, newenglandfabrics.com) has offered classes in sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for current schedule.
- **NH STATE QUILTERS ASSOCIATION** (nhsqa.org) offers membership for \$10 per year.
- **NH QUILTERS' EMPORIUM** (Pennichuck Square on Route 101A, 707 Milford Road, Merrimack, 880-0300, nhqe.com) offers classes in quilting.
- **PEGGY ANNE'S QUILTING AND SEWING** 57 N. Main St., Concord, 223-2344, peggyannes.com offers classes in quilting, sewing and more.
- **PIECE MAKERS QUILT GUILD** meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m., in the basement of the Holy Cross Church (118 Center Road, Weare). Email JLL3311@juno.com.
- **PINE TREE QUILT SHOP** (224 N. Broadway, Salem, 870-8100, pinetreequiltshop.com) offers quilting classes for all lev-

els of ability. See website for a complete list.

- **STITCHING UP THE WORLD** is a nonprofit group of volunteers who knit, crochet or sew items for charities on the third Thursday of each month, 7-9 p.m. at Smyth Public Library (55 High St., Candia). Visit candiawomansgroup.org or call 587-0603.

Scrapbooking & paper

- **FREE CROP** at Scrappin' Soul Sisters (7 Perely St., Concord, scrappinsoulsisters.com) Tuesdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **MARY'S MEMORIES** (12 Clark Road, Milford, 249-8978, marysmemories.com) offers individual lessons, one-session workshops and a basic scrapbooking class.
- **NH SCRAPBOOK CABIN** 294 Route 101 at Greeley Point in Amherst (next to Salzburg Square), nhscrapbookcabin.com, 769-3333, offers a variety of scrapbooking classes.
- **PAPER TECHNIQUES** workshops will be held at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road (Route 102), Hudson, on the first Thursday of the month, 2:30-4 p.m. or 7-8:30 p.m. Learn how to make things out of paper. Projects include scrapbooking, card-making, stamping, quilting and decoupage. Register at 886-6030.
- **THE PAPER TREE** (865 Second St., Manchester, 624-8800, thepapertree.net) offers one-day classes for different paper art projects and aspects of scrapbooking, as well as open studio time. Daytime and weekend classes available.
- **SCRAPBOOK ISLAND** (15 W. Broadway, Derry, 421-2881, derryscrapbookisland.com) offers various classes along with Ladies Layout Night Club on the first Wednesday of the month. Visit the website for a full list of classes.
- **SCRAPPIN' SOUL SISTERS** (7 Perely St., Concord, 717-7136, scrappinsoulsisters.com) offers classes and crops, which are gatherings where scrapbookers get together to work on projects and share ideas. Crops feature food and run from 6 p.m. to midnight every other Friday.
- **STAMPING MEMORIES** (96 DW Hwy., Belmont, 528-0498, nhstampingmemories.com, info@nhstampingmemories.com) offers classes on a variety of kinds of card-making.
- **TALK PAPER SCISSORS** (Willow Tree Plaza, 575 S. Willow St., Manchester, 669-8009, talkpaperscissors.com) offers introductory scrapbooking classes, as well as classes on specific aspects of scrapbooking (collage-making, art journaling) and on crafts such as card-making and lampshade-decorating.

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE GARDENING GUY

Still some pruning to do

Time to tackle trees and shrubs

By Henry Homeyer

listings@hippopress.com

Winter is upon us. Several nights the temperatures have dipped to 20 degrees or colder at my house, and snow is in the forecast. Is it time to hibernate? Not for me, or at least not yet. I still have pruning to do. Pruning of shrubs and hardwoods like maples and oaks is best done after leaf drop, when one can really see form and structure without the clutter of leaves.

Early spring blooming shrubs like forsythia, lilac, rhododendron, common ninebark and azaleas have already formed buds for next spring, and pruning will remove some. They are best pruned right after blooming, but if you didn't do it then, you can do it now — I have been. Most hydrangeas, summersweet clethra and other late-summer bloomers will form buds next spring for blooming later on. To me it is more important to have trees and shrubs look good all winter than to get every last blossom.

When pruning, remember that trees and shrubs do best when sunshine can reach every leaf, so thinning out branches is generally good. You should remove dead branches and anything that is rubbing another branch. I like to remove the lower branches of most shrubs and to take out any sprouts starting up from the roots in the vicinity of main stems. Branches aiming in toward the center of a shrub will just clutter it up, so, as the Red Queen said, "Off with their heads!"

I grow five or more kinds of willows. Willows do best in moist soil and full sun but are very adaptable and will grow almost anywhere. They grow fast and are interesting, primarily, for their foliage. Only the pussywillow has flowers that matter, those great fuzzy things that sing "Spring is on the way!"

I've recently been pruning two kinds of willows: the rosemary willow (*Salix elaeagnos*) and a Japanese variegated willow, a cultivar of *Salix integra* called Hakuru Nashiki. In each case the willows stay shrubby but tend to get a bit too tall for me. I like to keep them at a height of 8 feet or so, and that requires a trim every year or two. Other forms of willows will develop into trees 30 feet tall or more, such as the weeping willow. Most willows have relatively weak wood, meaning that their branches break easily in wind or ice storms.

I grow my Hakuru Nashiki willows across the stream from my vegetable garden. A small plant will get to be 10 feet tall in three to five years. They can have

very dense foliage with lots of branches starting near the ground, but I like to see some bare stem, so I prune off all the branches up to a height of 5 feet or so. You could prune them into a lollipop shape by removing all but one stem and shaping the top into a globe, but I haven't done that. Not yet, anyway.

By pruning the willows now I am making them pleasing to my eye, but also opening them up so that they will not hold a large snow mass. Any densely growing shrub will hold snow and is more likely to lose branches if we get a heavy, wet snow.

I remember arriving in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, on an April day in 1982 that just happened to be a national holiday, the celebration of the Cyrillic alphabet that featured a large parade downtown. Afterward, old women dressed in black came out with twig brooms and swept the streets and sidewalks of every cigarette butt and candy wrapper dropped by the crowds. I liked those brooms; they seemed right out of a fairy tale. This year I decided to use my willow prunings to make my own twig broom.

I had an old broom, so I cut off the head and re-used the handle, though I could have used a sapling instead. I collected small branches from the pile I had pruned from the willows, each about 30 inches long and about the thickness of a pencil. I arranged them around the handle, overlapping the handle by a foot.

Making a twig broom really is a two-person project, so I asked Cindy Heath to help me attach the wires. I had bought a small coil of No. 18 copper wire at the hardware store and cut two 4-foot sections for fastening the twigs onto the handle. I have large hands, so it wasn't hard to hold the twigs firmly in place while Cindy wrapped wire around them. When the wire was tightly wrapped four or five times around the handle, she twisted the two ends together tightly. Then we did it again farther down the handle, near the end of the twigs.

I like the broom for sweeping the front walk. It gets the leaves as well as bits of sand and gravel; so far it seems sturdy, and I like the way it looks. So do some pruning, and if you have enough small branches, try making yourself a broom.

Visit www.henryhomeyer.com to learn about Homeyer's new children's book, Wobar and the Quest for the Magic Calumet. 🍷

UNDER THE LIGHTS



To get the holiday season under way, visit Goffstown Village for Friday Night Under the Lights on Friday, Nov. 30, from 5 to 8 p.m. To begin the evening, the Goffstown Public Library (2 High St., Goffstown) will host a reading of *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg, complete with a train conductor. Santa will be at the event to hear children's holiday wishes, and hayrides will be making their way throughout the village. Local businesses will be open for activities, and the event concludes with River Fire, which will set the Piscataquog River ablaze. Call 497-9933, email info@goffstownmainstreet.org or visit www.goffstownmainstreet.org. Pictured: Santa pays a visit to Friday Night Under the Lights. Courtesy photo.

• **THURSDAY NIGHT SCRAP-PERS** at Pine Tree Quilt Shop (224 N. Broadway, Salem, 870-8100, pinetreequiltshop.com) on the third Thursday of the month 5:30-8:30 p.m. Get help and work on an unfinished project or learn a new technique each month. Cost is \$12 per session.

Sewing

• **DROP-IN STITCHERS** on Fridays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road (Route 102), Hudson. Work on knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching or any other needlework project with company, and pass the time while sharing ideas and techniques for future work. Call 886-6030.

• **LEVESQUE SEWING MACHINE** (1261 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 645-1661, levesquesewvac.com) offers classes from beginner to advanced in sewing and quilting. Classes are scheduled according to demand; call to find out about availability.

• **MERRISTITCHES** (72 Mirona Road, Portsmouth, 431-9922; 58 Range Road, Windham, 685-0185, merristitches.com) offers classes and workshops, as well as a sit and sew. Visit the website for a schedule at each store.

• **NASHUA SEW AND VAC** (228 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-2757, nashuasewandvac.com) offers classes in quilting and sewing, including classes for children.

• **NEW ENGLAND FABRICS**

(55 Ralston St., Keene, 352-8683, newenglandfabrics.com) has offered classes in sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for schedule.

• **PEGGY ANNE'S QUILTING AND SEWING** (480 Patten Hill Road, Candia, 223-2344, peggyannes.com) offers classes on quilting, sewing and more. See schedule on website.

Spinning

• **THE ELEGANT EWE** (71 S. Main St., Concord, 226-0066, elegantewe.com) offers workshops in spinning.

• **KEARSARGE AREA WOOL SPINNERS** meet on the last Tuesday of every month, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Main Street Bookends (16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreetbookends.com).

• **SOUTHERN NH WOOL SPINNERS** meet at Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us) on the first and third Wed. of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Beginners always welcome. Contact Elizabeth at eeskipper@comcast.net.

Other

• **BASKET-WEAVING CLASS** at the League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Retail Gallery, 98 Main St., Nashua, with Ruth Boland on Thursdays (6:15-9:15 p.m.) and Fridays (9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) year-round. Tuition is \$20 per class. Students can choose from numerous skill-level appropriate projects and progress at their own

pace with teacher assistance. All levels from beginner to advanced are welcome. Call 595-8233 or email nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

• **LADIES NIGHT You're Fired Studio** (133 Loudon Road, Concord; 25 S. River Road, Bedford, and 264 N. Broadway, Salem, yourefirednh.com) on Tuesdays and Thursdays 5-9 p.m. Half-off studio fee for ladies. Adults only. Call 641-FIRE (Bedford), 226-FIRE (Concord) or 894-KILN (Salem).

• **WEAVING** Floor and Table Loom at the Yarn and Fiber Co. (11 Manchester Road, Derry, yarnandfiber.com) on Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 p.m. Six weekly two-hour sessions cost \$120. Looms are available for class use and to use at home. Call 505-4432.

• **OLD FASHIONED HERBAL CHRISTMAS** at Meredith Public Library (91 Main St., Meredith), Tues., Nov. 27, 6-7:30 p.m. Create an herbal gift to give for the holidays or to take home. Registration is requested. Call 279-4303.

• **HOLIDAY CARD MAKING WORKSHOP** at Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson), Tues., Nov. 27, at 6:30 p.m. Learn a variety of homemade card making techniques. Call 886-6030 or visit www.rodgerslibrary.org.

• **GETTING STARTED WITH BEADING** at Bead Bush Studio (43 Mount Delight Road, Deerfield), Thurs., Nov. 29, 6-9 p.m. Learn the basics of beading and how to string jewelry. Admission is free but supplies must either be supplied by the student or purchased at the studio. Call 463-7683 or visit www.beadbush.com.

• **HOLIDAY WOODWORKING PROJECTS** at the Hooksett Library (31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett), Thurs., Nov. 29, at 6:30 p.m. Stephen Carey will be on hand to demonstrate different woodworking projects for beginners. Admission is free. Visit www.hooksetlibrary.org.

• **FAMILY WREATH MAKING AND NATURAL CREATIONS** at Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester), Fri., Nov. 30, 7-8:30 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 1, 10 a.m.-noon. Families are invited to learn how to create a wreath for the holidays. All wreaths will be made fully from natural materials. Enrollment is \$15 per wreath and prior registration with payment is required. Call 626-3474 or visit www.amoskeagfishways.org.

• **FELTED ANIMAL DEMONSTRATION** at the League of NH Craftsmen Meredith Retail Gallery (279 DW Hwy., Meredith), Sat., Dec. 1, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Carolyn Wright will demonstrate how she uses wool to create felt animals. Call 279-7920, 31

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CIGARETTES

Dad's road trip idea will make many good memories



Dear Tom and Ray:

My dad has a 1962 Studebaker Hawk that he bought three

years ago, when he was in chemotherapy. He got it out of a barn in Wisconsin, where it had sat for more than 30 years. It has 80,000 miles on it, and it's in pretty good shape. The paint is worn out, and it needs some interior work. He loves this old car and wants to take my brother and me on a trip on old Route 66 next summer starting in Chicago and going to somewhere in Missouri. I'm 14, and my brother is 12. Dad has done a lot of work on it. He's added seatbelts, modern disc brakes and dual master cylinders; he's converted the generator to an alternator; and he's added an electronic ignition and a modern carburetor. Mom is not thrilled with the road-trip idea. She says the car is too old and undependable. For example, the gas gauge doesn't work (Dad says that he just has to know how far he's driven), it does not have air conditioning and he disconnected the heater. He promised to get the non-working AM radio repaired and fix the small hole in the front floor before we go. Who is right — Mom or Dad? Should we go on this trip, or will we break down in

the middle of some cornfields in Illinois? Are we going to melt in this old car? Dad says the vent windows and fender vents will keep us from getting too hot. The car is two years older than my dad. He really wants to take this trip. Thank you. —Zach

RAY: Will you break down in the cornfields of Illinois? Yes — and lots of other places. Will you melt in this old car? Yes, especially when you're stopped or broken down, which will be often.

TOM: Should you go on this trip? Absolutely!

RAY: No question about it. It sounds like a wonderful adventure. And breaking down will just be part of the adventure. It'll give your dad a chance to show his sons how to handle adversity and solve problems, and how to take things in stride. And, since he's a guy who wants to make this trip in a '62 Studebaker, he'll also show his sons that fun can be had under almost any circumstances, even when it's 106 F in the breakdown lane.

TOM: I understand your mom's concerns. That's her job in the family — to worry about things like, oh, life and death. But your dad doesn't sound reckless to us. He's given this car a lot of upgrades, including the addition of seatbelts. And he plans to take the old, slower Route 66, rather than

risk your safety at 75 mph on the highway with tandem trailers whizzing by.

RAY: So my suggestion is to assure Mom that you're taking reasonable precautions. That means bringing two things along with you.

TOM: No. 1 is a cellphone, so that when you break down and your dad is unable to fix the problem himself, you can call for help. You may even want to download our iPhone app called "Breakdown Lane" from iTunes.

RAY: It uses your iPhone's GPS data to find the closest highly rated repair shops anywhere in the country — whatever cornfield or city you break down in.

TOM: And the second thing you need to bring is a credit card. You'll use that to either pay for parts and repairs, or, if worse comes to worst, buy three bus tickets home and take the Studebaker's plates with you.

RAY: Either way, it'll be a great adventure that you'll all remember for the rest of your lives. So go for it. And have Mom call us if she needs some more convincing.

Dear Tom and Ray:

My 16-year-old son drives a 2008 Honda CR-V. He wants to play the car's radio while the engine is off. He wants to sit in the car with the radio on while he is killing time, or while waiting for me while I

am in the store. I have told him it's not a good idea, since it could kill the battery. He doesn't believe me, since his friends supposedly listen to the radios in their cars without the engines running. He says they do it "all the time" — listening from 10 minutes to half an hour — and have "never" had a problem with killing the battery. What's your opinion? Can you resolve this standoff? —Sarah

TOM: Is it his car? If it is, what do you care? If he kills his battery, you can refuse to give him a jump-start until he writes "I will always listen to my sainted mother" 1,000 times.

RAY: Of course, if it's your car he's driving, then I understand why you're concerned. But you really don't need to be.

TOM: The radio uses a very small amount of current — maybe a couple of amps. That's not enough to kill a battery that's in good condition. Not even close. So, as long as the battery is sound, he can play the radio for an hour or two at a time without doing any harm.

RAY: If your battery IS weak and near the end of its life, then, sure, he might kill it by playing the radio. But in that case, it would have died and stranded you soon anyway. And now you can blame it on him! ☹️

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• **MOSAIC TRAY** at Kast Hill Studio (195 Kast Hill Road, Hopkinton), Sat., Dec. 1, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and Sun., Dec. 2, 9-11 a.m. Create a tray using mosaic techniques. Class is \$50. Call 746-6745, email lizzvansaun@tds.net or visit www.kasthillstudio.com.

• **WEAVE A HEN BASKET** at the League of NH Craftsmen (98 Main St., Nashua), Sat., Dec. 1, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Learn the techniques to create a hen basket. For ages 14 and older. Tuition is \$60 with a \$35 material fee. Call 595-8233, email nashuarg@nhcrafts.org or visit www.nhcrafts.org/
localsites/nashua/index.html.

• **EARRINGS IN A DAY** at the League of NH Craftsmen (98 Main St., Nashua), Sun., Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Create your own earrings from beads and wire. For ages 14 and older. Tuition is \$70 with a \$20 material fee. Call 595-8233, email nashuarg@nhcrafts.org or visit www.nhcrafts.org/
localsites/nashua/index.html.

• **MAKING OF THE ANNUAL ORNAMENT** at the League of NH Craftsmen Meredith Retail Gallery (279 DW Hwy., Meredith), Sun., Dec. 2, 1-3 p.m. Aaron Slater will demonstrate how he created his ornament, "Woodland Treasure," which has been selected as the League's annual ornament. Call 279-7920 or visit www.nhcrafts.org/
localsites/meredith/index.html.

• **BEADING BASICS** at Hollis Social Library (2 Monument Sq., Hollis) Wed., Dec. 5, 6:30-8 p.m. Learning stringing and crimping techniques for beginners. Registration is required. Call 465-7721 or visit hollislibrary.org.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Workshops, seminars & events

• **CARING FOR SOMEONE WITH MEMORY IMPAIRMENT** at Hooksett Library (31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett), Tues., Nov. 27, at 10 a.m. For family caregivers, learn strategies on how to improve interactions with the person being cared for. Visit hooksettlibrary.org.

• **MUSICAL HEALING** at Merrimack Public Library (470 DW Hwy., Merrimack), Wed., Nov. 28, at 7 p.m. Beverly Rush, a certified music practitioner, will be on hand to teach how music can comfort and heal and can be used to help a dying loved one and his or her family through that transition. Prior registration is recommended. Call 424-5021 or email mmkpl@merrimack.lib.nh.us.

• **INTRODUCTION TO GENESIS PURE** at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester) Sat., Dec. 1, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Learn how Genesis PURE can

BLAST BELLY FAT



Thanksgiving will be over and the inevitable third or fourth helpings of turkey will be polished off. And the Manchester Yoga Mill (250 Commercial St., Suite 3005-E, Manchester) is ready to help over-indulgents get rid of excess weight in the belly. Visit the Belly Blasting Workshop on Tuesday, Nov. 27, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., and learn why excess weight is stored in the belly and how that can be affected by stress. Then, take a Dynamic Vinyasa Flow class, focused on strengthening the belly region. Admission is \$15. Call 933-0878 or visit www.manchesteryoganh.com.

provide health benefits, enjoy a catered lunch and receive museum admission. Admission to the event is \$15. Call 370-0854 or visit www.TheAbundantLife.EventBrite.com.

• **BROWN BAG LUNCH** at the Women Supporting Women Center (111 Water St., Exeter) on the second Thursday of each month, noon-1 p.m. Meet new people and have conversations during the day. Prior registration is required. Call 772-0799, email info@wswwcenter.com or visit www.wswwcenter.com.

• **HYPNOSIS FOR WEIGHT LOSS** every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., 1 and 7 p.m. at the New You Center For Hypnosis (3 Webb Place, Suite 4, Dover). Price varies. Each participant will also receive a "home hypnosis session" on CD. Call 749-MIND. No walk-ins.

• **NEW THOUGHT CIRCLE** each Thursday at Women Supporting Women Center (111 Water St., Exeter), 9:30-11 a.m. Learn about spiritual concepts with the Rev. Claire Houston. Admission is \$10. Call 772-0799, email info@wswwcenter.com or visit www.wswwcenter.com.

Blood drives

• **AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES** will be available at Beaver Meadow Golf Course (1 Beaver Meadow St., Concord) Mon., Nov. 26, 2-7 p.m., at the Arthur Colby Safety Building (8 Cooper St., Loudon) Tue., Nov. 27, and at Bow Old Town Hall (91 Bow Center Road, Bow) Wed., Nov. 28, 1-6 p.m. Call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

Exercise/Fitness

• **CARDIO BOOTCAMP RHT** Martial Arts, 68 N. Stark Hwy., Weare, 529-5425, nhkick.com.

• **DYNAMIC STRENGTH AND FITNESS** 115 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, 882-2348. Visit DynamicSC.com for more information.

• **FIT TO BE TONED** (200 Elm St., Manchester, 505-0042, fitto toned.com) offers boot camp class on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 a.m. It incorporates kickboxing into a routine including core training, squats, lunges and leg conditioning.

• **FITNESS HIKING** at Beaver Brook Association (117 Ridge Road, Hollis), Mondays and Fridays, 9-11 a.m., through May. Participants should be in good condition. Cost is \$5. Call 465-7787 or visit beaverbrook.org.

• **GET FIT NH BOOT CAMP** has two studios, 167 New Orchard Road, Epsom, and 287 S. Main St., Concord. Offers classes Mondays, Tuesday, Thursdays and Fridays, including ladies-only classes. Sessions run for four consecutive weeks. To receive a free two-week tryout, email getfitnh@gmail.com or call 344-2651 to reserve your spot, as space is limited. Visit getfitnh-bootcamp.com.

• **GENTLE NIA** The Holistic Self Care Center, 12 Murphy Drive, Nashua, Mondays from 5:15-6 p.m. Nia is a sensory-based movement lifestyle that leads to health, wellness and fitness and draws from disciplines of the martial arts, dance arts and healing arts. It empowers people of all shapes and sizes by connecting the body, mind, emotions

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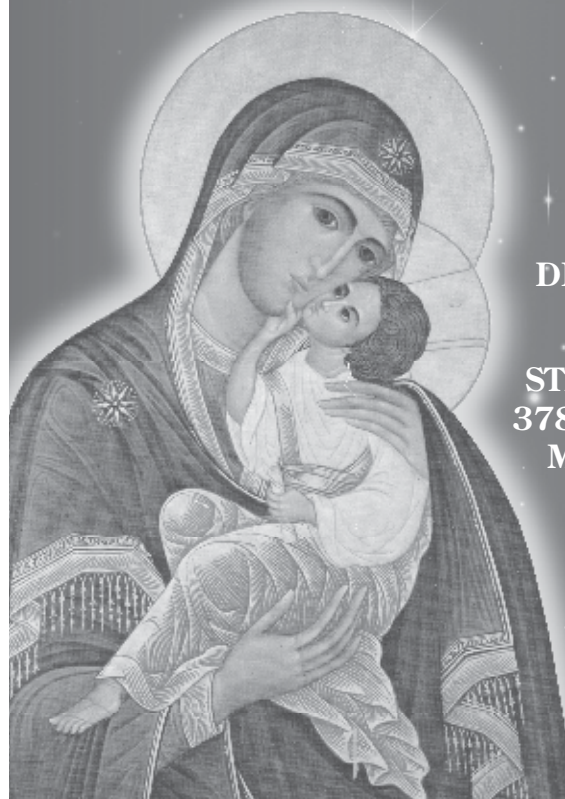
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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Change the way you shop

Pick out unique gifts at a Manchester holiday market

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

After visiting an elaborate holiday expo in Boston, Heidi Copeland, the owner of Millyard Communications, envisioned bringing the experience to New Hampshire. Now, after a year and a half of planning and preparation, New Hampshire for the Holidays will make its debut in Manchester, aiming to be more than just a holiday fair.

In addition to vendors from throughout the Northeast, Copeland said the little things are what will make the fair a full holiday experience. There will be a model train exhibit and a big-screen television playing a loop of holiday classics. But at the center of it all will be a Victorian Village that Copeland said she is particularly excited about.

The Village will consist of miniature homes, decorated and lighted for the holiday season. The houses are modeled after ones in Oak Bluffs on Martha's Vineyard, making for a truly New England feel to the inaugural holiday event.

"People will actually walk through the village and down a street lined by houses that are eight and a half feet high," Copeland said. "They are painted beautifully and decorated with seasonal decorations."

New Hampshire for the Holidays is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Radisson Hotel. Copeland said about 100 exhibitors from throughout the Northeast will be bringing mostly high-end products. Amanda Arseneault, the events coordinator at Millyard Communications, said the idea is to provide shoppers with items they wouldn't typically pick up from a store.

"People get the same gifts every year," Arseneault said. "It's nice to get something different, and that's what we looked for."

Another option for holiday shoppers seeking an alternative buying experience in the Queen City is Intown Manchester's Holiday Market. That market, at the Brady Sullivan Plaza, will open Thursday, Nov. 29, and will reopen on the first three Thursdays in December, from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Because of the popularity of the market, Sara Beaudry, Intown Manchester's director of marketing, said for the first time the



One of the houses that will be part of New Hampshire for the Holidays' Victorian Village under construction. Courtesy photo.

market will be open on a fifth date, Saturday, Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Beaudry said the market will feature more than 40 vendors, all providing items made in New Hampshire. Beaudry said Santa will be at each date and there will be plenty of activities for families to try, especially during the Saturday market.

"There are a nice variety of artisans that will be set up, and on the Saturday we will be doing arts and crafts for kids," Beaudry said. "We're also going to be setting up some music, and we are excited about that."

Primarily, however, Beaudry said the event will provide a way to get some shopping done in a relaxed environment with local products that shoppers won't find in other locations.

"It's a really good group of people," she said. "And they all will have some unique items." 🍎

Intown Manchester's Holiday Market

When: Thursdays, Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20, from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Brady Sullivan Plaza (1000 Elm St., Manchester)

Admission: Free

New Hampshire for the Holidays

When: Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Where: Radisson Hotel (700 Elm St., Manchester)

Admission: \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors, \$4 for ages 3 through 12, and free for younger than 3. Call 626-6354.

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• **HULA HOOPS** fitness classes with Nicole Vincent. Email flashbackhoops@comcast.net or go to flashbackhoops.com.

• **JAZZERCISE** at the Manches-

ter Jazzercise Fitness Center (32 Hayward St., Manchester, 624-9122, manchjazz.com) features 42 classes per week, including Jazz Lite (low impact), body sculpting and express classes (1/2 hour).

• **JAZZERCISE** the South-

ern NH Jazzercise at 28 Lowell Road, Hudson, offers 33 weekly classes in Jazzercise and body sculpting. Contact Cindy Robinson at 880-0887 or cindyjazz1@comcast.net. For other locations, go to jazzercise.com or call 800-FIT-IS-IT.

SEE THE LIGHTS



Downtown Manchester is getting spruced up for the holidays. Intown Manchester and 20 local businesses are working together to adorn Granite Street with holiday lights throughout the season. The display will be visible to motorists as they enter the city by Exit 5 of Interstate 293. Pictured: Dick Manseau of the Manchester Parks Department installs the lights. Courtesy photo.

• NLP ELITE ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Next Level Performance (31 S. Commercial St., Manchester, nlp speed.com) Offers classes strength, speed, agility, flexibility and injury prevention for athletes ages 11 and older on Mon., Wed., Thurs. and Fri. Call 627-7500.

• NLP FITNESS BOOTCAMP

Next Level Performance (31 S. Commercial St., Manchester, nlp fitcamp.com) offers specific fitness instruction, nutritional coaching and training for improved quality of life. Thirty classes a week. Call 627-7500 for class times and dates.

• OUTDOOR FITNESS BOOT CAMP

(fitnessonwheels.com, 234-9669) Fitness on Wheels at the Goddard School, 12 Tsienneto Road, Derry. Email tricia@fitnessonwheels.com for session dates and times.

• ON THE MOVE FITNESS & CONDITIONING

(289-3088, onthemovefit.net) offers an Extreme Fitness Boot Camp, a Women's Fitness Boot Camp, Boot Camp Basic and Team Fitness Boot Camp.

• PERFECTFIT

(perfectfitonline.com, 641-8297) fitness consultant and personal fitness trainer Dave Soucy offers small group classes featuring circuit training with full-body movements.

• PILATES MAT at Yoga & More

(505 W. Hollis St., Suite 106, Nashua, 889-1121, yogaandmorenh.com) on Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m., and Thursdays, 7-8 p.m. and 9:30-10:30 a.m. Learn the fundamentals of the Pilates technique as taught by founder Joseph Pilates. Drop-in fee is \$15.

• CONCORD PILATES

(2 Pillsbury St., Suite 302, Concord, 369-0550, ConcordPilates.com) classes are Monday at 5 p.m.,

Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday at 9 a.m., Thursday at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday at 10 a.m. First week costs \$20.

• **PILATES** by Deerfield Parks and Rec., Studio 59 at the George B. White Building, 8 Raymond Road, on Wed. and Fri. at 10 a.m. Visit townofdeerfieldnh.com or email dfldparks@townofdeerfield.com or call 463-8811, ext. 305.

• **PILATES** Martial Arts, 68 N. Stark Hwy., Weare. Call 529-5425.

• **PILATES NH** and Yoga, 76 Route 101A, Amherst. Classes will be held Tuesdays 6-7 p.m. and Mondays 8:15-9:15 a.m. To register call 562-7525.

• **RTH MARTIAL ARTS AND WELLNESS**, 68 N. Stark Hwy., Weare, 529-5425, offers health and wellness classes including zumba, yoga, pilates, yang tai chi chuan and more. Go to nhkick.com.

• STRAFFORD COUNTY

YMCA fitness classes including kickboxing, cardio combo and conditioning combo, at the Strafford County YMCA at 63 Lowell St., Rochester. Contact Brent Diesel at 332-7334 or bdiesel@gmfymca.org.

• **TRADITIONAL NIA** The Holistic Self Care Center, 12 Murphy Drive, Nashua, Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m. Nia is a sensory-based movement lifestyle that leads to health, wellness and fitness and draws from disciplines of the martial arts, dance arts and healing arts. It empowers people of all shapes and sizes by connecting the body, mind, emotions and spirit. To sign up, call 883-1490, email info@thehscenter.com, or go to thehscenter.com.

• **TRAINING EFFECTS NH** (434-9281, trainingeffectsnh.com)

in Londonderry offers group boot camp program to promote cardiovascular fitness, muscular endurance, flexibility and balance. Meets Friday at 9:30 a.m.

• WELLNESS CENTER

CLASSES WellSpace New Hampshire, 633 Maple St., Hopkinton. Offering fitness classes of all levels, tai chi for arthritis and qigong, strength training, boot camp, yoga, personal training, mindful meditation, children's dance classes and nutrition & weight loss programs. Call Jane Sullivan-Durand, MD, founder of WellSpace NH at 746-4626 or Ami Sarasvati at amisarasvati@yahoo.com.

• **YMCA** of Greater Manchester offers a wide variety of fitness classes. Visit manchesterymca.org or call 623-3558.

• **ZUMBA** Mon. and Thurs. at 5:30 p.m., Tues. at 5:45 p.m., first class free, at Royal Palace Dance Studio, 167 Elm St., Manchester, RoyalPalaceDance.com.

• **ZUMBA** McConnell Center Gym in Dover offers classes every Wed. 7-8 p.m., Sat. 9-10 a.m. and Sun. 10-11 a.m. A 6-week session costs \$30 for Dover residents (\$35 for nonresidents). Drop-ins are also welcome. New classes start every 6 to 7 weeks. Zumba is a fun and easy dance-fitness program designed for people of all ages and levels of fitness. Contact the Dover Rec Center at 516-6401 or the instructor, Diana Post, at 969-6413.

• **ZUMBA** at Kaleo Coffee, 83 Main St., Dover, 343-4139, every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. Diana Post is the instructor for this weekly class. Drop-in fee is \$5 per person.

• **ZUMBA** at St. Joseph Hospital (172 Kinsley St., Nashua) on Fridays, 7-8 p.m. Session 2 is through Dec. 14. Cost is \$50 per session. All ages and experience levels can participate. Call 595-3168 or visit www.stjosephhospital.com.

• **ZUMBA** at Queen City Ballroom (21 Dow St., Manchester) Mondays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., and Thursdays, 6:15-7:15 p.m. All levels are welcome and dance experience is not necessary. In October, the drop-in rate is \$5. Call 341-2514, email QnCityBallrm@aol.com or visit www.queencityballroomnh.com.

• **ZUMBA GOLD** with Ginger Kozlowski on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 6-6:45 p.m. Tuesday classes at the old Bedford Town Hall (3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford), Wednesday at Hooksett Town Hall (35 Main St., Hooksett) and Thursday at Mill-A-Round Dance Center (250 Commercial St., Manchester). Classes cost \$7 at the door, with the first class free. Email apljacker@gmail.com or visit gingerk.zumba.com.

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- **SPALIDAYS** at the Inns and Spa at Mill Falls (312 DW Highway, Meredith), Wed., Nov. 28, 5-7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and include a \$5 coupon, mini spa services and food. Proceeds benefit the Breast Health Program at Lakes Region General Hospital. Call 677-8620.
- **\$10,000 RAFFLE EXTRAVAGANZA** at The River Card Room (185 Elm St., Milford), Fri., Nov. 30, 6-8 p.m. Hosted by Opportunity Networks, an organization assisting residents of Greater Nashua and the Souhegan Valley with developmental disabilities. Grand prize is \$10,000; raffles will also be drawn for smaller amounts. Call 883-4402 or visit www.opportunitynetworks.org.

- **DOLL CLOTHES RAFFLE** at Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson). The Drop-in Stitchers have supplied a basket of clothes for an 18-inch doll that will be raffled off to support the library's children's room. Tickets cost \$1 (or six for \$5) and a winner will be selected Fri., Dec. 14. Call 886-6030.

Expos/festivals/fairs

- **EVERGREEN FAIR** at the Memorial Union Building at the University of New Hampshire (83 Main St., Durham), Thurs., Nov. 29, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Fri., Nov. 30, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 1, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fifty artists and craft makers will be on hand and there will be live music. Admission is free. Call 934-6248, email evergreenfair@hotmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/evergreenfair.

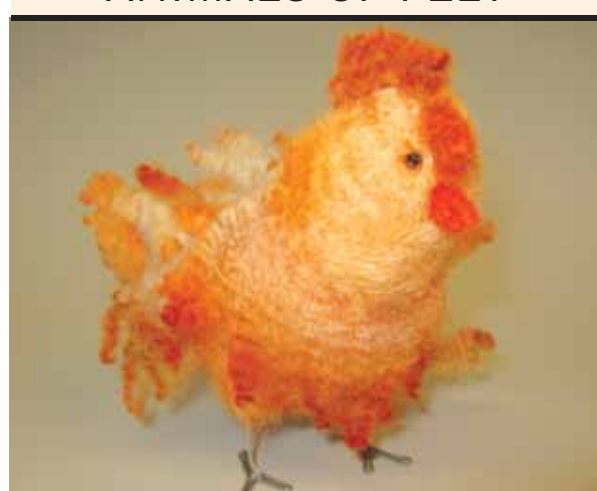
- **GFWC HUDSON JUNIOR WOMAN'S CRAFT FAIR** on Sat., Dec. 1, at Hudson Memorial School (1 Memorial Drive, Hudson). Free admission. Artists and craftspeople who want to take part should call 594-0332 or email debbieandjeff1@comcast.net.

- **NIKKI'S DREAM WELLNESS FESTIVAL** at C.R.E.A.T.E!, the Center for Expressive Arts, Therapy and Education (141 Union St., Manchester), Sat., Dec. 1, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Throughout the day, sessions will provide information on how to feel relaxed and empowered. Admission costs \$20, which will be donated to Nikki's Dream for Wellness and Education. Call 625-0010 or visit castlecreate.com.

Other

- **MANCHESTER WEST CLASS OF '82 REUNION** at the Executive Court Banquet Facility (1199 S. Mammoth Road, Manchester), Fri., Nov. 23, 7-11 p.m. \$35 per person. Call 627-4300, email mightyblueof82@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/WestHighSchool-

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Wool may come from sheep, but Carolyn Wright can use it to create miniature versions of many other animals. Visit the League NH Craftsmen Meredith Retail Gallery on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., for a felted animal demonstration. Learn Wright's technique of needle felting and feel free to ask questions about her creations. Call 279-7920 or visit www.nhcrafts.org/localsites/meredith/index.html.

SPORTS & RECREATION

Ice skating

- **ICE SKATING LESSONS** at the Everett Arena (15 Loudon Road, Concord), through Sat., Dec. 8. For ages 4 through adult. Times and prices are available by calling 225-8690 or visiting www.ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

Runs/running/walks

- **GREAT GOBBLER THANKSGIVING DAY 5K** at Mine Falls Park, Nashua, Thurs., Nov. 22, at 8 a.m. Prior registration is recommended, \$25 (\$20 for ages 17 and younger). Day-of registration is \$30 (\$25). Proceeds benefit the cross-country teams from Nashua public high schools. Visit www.stjosephhospital.com/GreatGobbler.
- **ATHLETIC ALLIANCE** (www.nhathleticalliance.com) is a non-profit running club based in Manchester open to all ages and levels.
- **GATE CITY STRIDERS** (www.gatecity.org) club for runners at all levels, from recreational joggers to competitive runners.

Spectator

- **MANCHESTER FREEDOM** women's tackle football team plays at West Memorial Field in Manchester. See manchesterfreedom.com.
- **MANCHESTER MAYHEM** is a roller derby team in Manchester. Visit rollerderbymanchester.com.
- **MANCHESTER MONARCHS** are an affiliate of the NHL's L.A. Kings, and play their home games at Verizon Wireless Arena (555 Elm St., Manchester). Call 626-7825 or visit manchestermarch.com.

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Give thanks to gadgets

Being grateful for modern technology

By John "jaQ" Andrews
jandrews@hippopress.com



This is the time of year when we appreciate all that we have. I could tell you all about the people in my life, but that's really not why you read this here column, is it?

And, looking through my past writings, apparently the last time I did this was 2007. So it's definitely time. What am I particularly grateful for this year, in no particular order?

USB: The Universal Serial Bus is just four pins of wonderful as far as I'm concerned. It supports everything from input peripherals and storage to more exotic gadgets like smartphones and medical devices. Before USB, peripherals had to be connected to parallel or serial ports, which were not only larger but also harder to manage. They came with dedicated hardware addresses, and you could pretty much forget about swapping devices in and out. If you were lucky, you had a SCSI port, which had its own hardware addressing system to confuse people. Now, the USB system loads and unloads drivers for you when you connect or disconnect devices, so there are no conflicting hardware addresses and everybody's happy. Oh, and speaking of which...

Device drivers: These little bits of software are what make our hardware work. They come on CDs with the new stuff we buy, though realistically we have to get the most up-to-date versions from the manufacturer Web sites. Without drivers, our computers would have no clue what to do with the doodads we plug into USB (or FireWire, or SCSI, etc.) ports. Drivers tell the operating system exactly what type of device we've attached, what its capabilities are, and how to control it.

And of course, we'd hardly be able to carry tablets around without...

Wireless broadband Internet access: I could be talking about Wi-Fi routers linking us to our wired connections at home, or I could mean service provided by cellular companies while we're out and about. Either way, being untethered is essential to the way we use our devices now — in the kitchen for looking up recipes and playing streaming music; in bed for catching up on e-mail before rising; keeping in touch while walking from place to place. Can you imagine having to plug into an Ethernet jack every time you wanted to connect to the Internet? For that matter, can you imagine going without...

Batteries: Plugging in our laptops and phones all the time wouldn't be just inconvenient, it would run counter to the whole way they're designed. They're meant to be used on the go, without wires of any kind. Shackling them to a power outlet would destroy their utility. As much as we complain about the limited time our batteries give us, they should be appreciated for all the time they do offer.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Tweet your turkey pics to @CitizenjaQ on Twitter. 🐔

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this week's nutrition tip:



Prepare your favorite holiday dishes without guilt

By making small changes to your traditional holiday meals, you can enjoy your favorite dishes but without the guilt. Try these simple recipe alternatives to bump up the nutritional value and help control calories, fat, and sodium.

When the recipe calls for:

Replace with:

1/2 cup butter or margarine	1/4 cup applesauce or 1/2 cup Promise® Buttery Spread
1 egg	2 egg whites or 1/4 cup liquid egg substitute
1 cup whole milk or evaporated milk	1 cup skim milk or evaporated skim milk
1 cup all-purpose flour	1 cup whole-wheat flour
1 cup chocolate chips	1 cup dried fruit, such as raisins, cranberries, or cherries
1 cup wine	1 cup broth or fruit juice
Frosting	Light dusting of powdered sugar or pureed fruit
2 oz. grated mild cheddar cheese	1 oz. Cabot® Sharp Light Cheddar Cheese
1/2 cup bread crumbs	1/2 cup toasted wheat germ or crushed whole-grain cereal, such as Kashi® Good Friends® Cereal
2 pie crusts (top & bottom)	1 pie crust on top
1/4 cup mayonnaise	1/4 cup Hellmann's® Canola Cholesterol Free or Light Mayonnaise
1 cup broth or stock	1 cup low-sodium broth or stock
1 cup sugar	1/2 cup sugar and 1/2 cup sugar substitute, such as stevia
1/2 teaspoon salt	No salt

Source: American Institute for Cancer Research



Concerned about food allergies? Whether you're gluten-free, nut-free, or dairy-free, don't let fear of contaminating foods be the reason you miss out on your favorite dishes. Speak with your local Hannaford dietitian to find safe, allergy-free recipe substitutions. To view a store schedule, go to hannaford.com/dietitians.

Interested in learning more? Our registered dietitians hold classes, have on-the-sales-floor nutrition demonstrations and do healthy store tours. They can give you the information you need to make the healthy life style changes you want. For free nutritional advice, you can also email a private message to our staff registered dietitian at hannaford.com/dietitian



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Goffstown's Farmhouse set for opening

Four food industry stalwarts to serve homestyle with flair

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

• **Farm the winter:** Over the next few months, markets in Canterbury, Greenland, Seacoast Eat Local, Concord, Manchester, Tilton and Salem will be carrying products from Brookford Farms. Items include new, vacuum-sealed half pound logs of fromage fraise in flavors like cracked black pepper, sun dried tomato and basil, cranberry and hot pepper jelly. Once again this year the farm will be offering select holiday cheese gift boxes, Christmas trees starting at \$20 and new half-gallon bottles for their milk.

• **New Horizons Holiday Bash:** Tickets for Milly's Tavern (500 North Commercial St., Manchester, 625-4444) New Horizon's Holiday Bash on Friday, Dec. 14, are on sale for \$10. Enjoy appetizers, charity auctions and live entertainment to help benefit proceeds for cash, clothing and food donations for the shelter and food pantry. New England classic rock-funk cover band Manchuka and Alli Seney's Allstars are set to perform. Donations of clothing and non-perishable food items can be dropped off at Milly's as well, to be distributed during the tavern's Christmas morning charity breakfast. Check out www.millystavern.com for more.

• **Cheese-making:** Check out the Barnstead Community Market (13a Parade Road, Barnstead, 269-2253) for a cheese making class on Thursday, Nov. 29, from 6 to 8 p.m. Registration is required for the classes which come with a \$35 fee. Anna Williams of Mountain View Farm will guide students through the basics making soft goat cheese and feta cheese. Call 568-7318 to register or visit the market online at barnsteadcommunitymarket.homestead.com.

• **Moulton Farm holiday workshops:** Take lessons from Moulton Farm (18 Quarry Road, Meredith, 279-3915) staff, who will be sharing tips, knowledge and laughs with cooking and crafts. Learn the secrets of making the perfect yule log cake on Sunday, Dec. 2, wreath decorations and biscotti baking on Wednesday, Dec. 5, and boxwood tree centerpieces on Wednesday, Dec. 12. For more information call 603-279-3915 or visit moultonfarm.com. Classes range in price from \$20 to \$30, pre-registration is required.

• **Gourmet caramels:** Van Otis (341 Elm St., Manchester, 627-1611) has done it again, this time with caramel. Boasting a "perfect blend of innovative fla-

46 ▶

Drawing from decades of experience, a restaurateur quartet is bringing a well-known Goffstown gathering place back to life in a bold way.

The High Street Farmhouse, creation of former Pinkerton Tavern owners Jennifer Lutzen and Guy Streitburger and former Village Trestle owners Lorraine and Steve Pascucci, has been going through renovation and re-invigoration since September. The eatery, formerly Patrick's Country Restaurant, is set for an opening sometime before the end of the year.

The Pascuccis approached Lutzen and Streitburger about a possible collaboration after the Pinkerton was seized by eminent domain. With them on board, the Pascuccis sold the Village Trestle, and the four-some began pouring ideas in to the High Street Farmhouse which, given its central location and years of being an eatery under different names and owners, has become a recognized Goffstown haunt.

"You walked in and it was great, it was a place to be. People like to come together and be in the lounge-type area. We want to get that feeling again, the good atmosphere, the good service and the good food," Lorraine Pascucci said.

The four new owners have decided to take a menu full of simple food and design it outside of the box while maintaining affordability and beating back boredom by changing it quarterly.

"People should be able to

come in twice a week and eat. They might not get a steak both times, but it should be affordable food that's creative, but not overly chi-chi. To stay ahead of the curve, you can't just be vanilla, but it needs to be done the right way," said Streitburger, who is also the executive chef.

Taking nods from the Pinkerton and the pub fare from the Village Trestle, the Farmhouse's food is comfort food by nature, but creative in its character. Soups du jour, Slam Chowder and butternut and honey crisp apple bisque can be served on their own or all together in a soup flight for the indecisive. There are inspired versions of classics like diver scallops, either wrapped in bacon with maple mesquite glaze as an appetizer (\$12) or pan blackened with honey jalapeno tartar (\$22), and The Hay Stack sandwich (\$12) of smoked pork and prime rib with sweet onion jam and espinaca dip.

The buffalo short ribs (\$14) are served over rice-based, gluten-free grits and cooked with New Hampshire maple syrup. The pulled pork sundae (\$14) is a stacked homestyle plate with gravy- and barbecue-sauce doused pulled pork layered atop buttermilk mashed potatoes, two times over. Both dishes will be prepared in the smoker, an outdoor addendum to the kitchen.

Also outside is a garden, which won't yield much until the second season of business but is a symbol of the owners' locavore philosophy, something both former restaurants employed on their menus.



Steve and Lorraine Pascucci, Jennifer Lutzen and Guy Streitburger in front of the Farmhouse. Luke Steere photo.

The High Street Farmhouse

9 High St., Goffstown, 384-1990

Opening soon. Visit www.facebook.com/HighStreetFarmHouse for updates.

"If people are enjoying smoked wings on the patio, and they see someone come out and pick a vegetable they're going to be served, or they see the mint picked off the porch for a mojito, they get it, they get that it's the High Street Farmhouse and what we're about," Streitburger said.

The new lounge area in the rear room, where an expanded bar has been relocated, features curtains designed by Lutzen and made locally, and stained glass pieces crafted by Steve Pascucci. Potted herbs are being grown on the front porch, which, along with a new back patio, will provide seasonal seating.

The main dining room mirrors the rustic menu and is divided into three rooms with natural light brightening each. Decorative fireplace mantels, and antique and yard sale furniture, which the four owners drove around collecting while setting up, add to the exposed beam ceiling and newly stained floor, which they found after pulling up a rug, built circa

1862.

Between the renovations and Hurricane Sandy holding up their freezer delivery, the opening has been delayed slightly, but they are planning on it by the end of the year.

"There have been some minor setbacks bringing it up to code and renovating bathrooms, but it's coming together. A lot of people have been responding too, wanting to come up. Everybody knows this place in Goffstown," Steve Pascucci said.

High Street Farmhouse has no set hours yet, but it will start with dinner only, beginning at 3 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. Themed dining nights with Italian, Western or big game prix-fixe or three-course menus, special wine tastings or dining in the dark are being planned for the future. 🍷

Chinese, Japanese and Thai, oh my

Big-city Asian cuisine comes to Manchester

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

Boasting modern décor and a pan-Asian and Asian fusion menu, Masa is the new kid on the block for the Mall of New Hampshire area, and it already has street cred.

Masa's big brother is Watawa, a Japanese restaurant owned by the same company in Astoria, Queens, N.Y., Executive Chef Jimmy Dong, who previously worked at Watawa, said Masa is bringing that big inner-city look and feel to Manchester. And although Masa is a bit

of a hike from Manchester's downtown it brings a slick, modern look and feel amidst big-box neighbors along South Willow.

"All the chefs here are from New York," Dong said. "Our idea is to bring that style, decoration and food to here. The menu there

FOOD

catered to the population, so we serve the essentials for every style of Asian cuisine because they're the most popular dishes."

Be it Chinese, Japanese or Thai, if it's a staple Asian food, it can be found on the menu. Masa can introduce diners to pad thai (\$10 to \$13), General Tso's chicken (\$11.95), Vietnamese summer rolls (\$4.95) and jumbo calamari in orange sauce (\$8.95) all in one sitting. Szechuan Crispy shredded beef with celery and carrots (\$13.95) is popular, Dong said, as well as fusion selections, like Filet Mignon-XO with seasoned vegetables and Chinese XO sauce (\$21.95) and the Miso Chilean Sea Bass (\$20.95).

"Food from the different Asian regions is all cooked differently; it's a matter of coordination. Thai food is usually cooked fast, while Japanese food takes a lot of preparation, so it's about arranging time so the food is served hot and on time," Dong said.

Hibachi is the most popular part of the restaurant; more than half of the 200-plus seating spaces are on that side of the restaurant. Orders of chicken, shrimp, salmon, filet mignon, lobster, scallops and more come with green salad, clear soup, fried rice, vegetable and shrimp for between \$16 and \$25. Combination orders run between \$20 and \$40.

A sushi bar at the back of the hibachi can seat groups as well, and the usual index of classic rolls are featured on the menu. Masa specials rolls include the Manchester (\$12.95), with spicy white tuna, cucumber, jalapeno, white fish, eel sauce, scallion and flying fish egg, and the Godzilla (\$12.95), a cooked roll with spicy crab, avocado and tempura.

The soft opening is the only startup



A hibachi grill at Masa. Courtesy Photo

event, so as not to highball quality one day and bring it down the next, Dong said. That was in September, but even late this summer, the unoccupied restaurant-in-progress caught the attention of many a driver coming off of Interstate 293 or shopping along South Willow Street.

It's those customers along the shopping district that Masa wants to reach, Dong said, a different kind than found in Queens or Manhattan. He said the way to do this is not only by positioning, but by contrasting with what is available in the area.

Red and black hues dominate the décor in the waiting room, accenting the dim lighting, giving it a modern, nightlife anytime look and feel, a shift from the mall concourse across the street.

Dong said he was enjoying the change of pace since leaving the Big Apple.

"It's a lot quieter here," he said. 🍷

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Hours: Sunday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

From Kitchen to table

Fast-food alternative offers full meals to bring home

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

Kassandra Statitres is inviting you to her kitchen, a healthier, heartier alternative to fast food that's just as fast.

Since July, The Kitchen on River Road has been continuing the food traditions her family has been providing Greater Manchester for decades through simple, homestyle establishments like the Puritan Backroom and Karen's Kitchen, named for Statitres' mother.

As you drive past Stark Park, Manchester's suburban side begins to show through, and The Kitchen fits right in as a cozy, one-stop shop for dinner. Kassandra and her mother have joined together to man this new kitchen, bringing home-style cooking into the homes of the 42 ▶



Kassandra Statitres at The Kitchen on River Road. Luke Steere photo.

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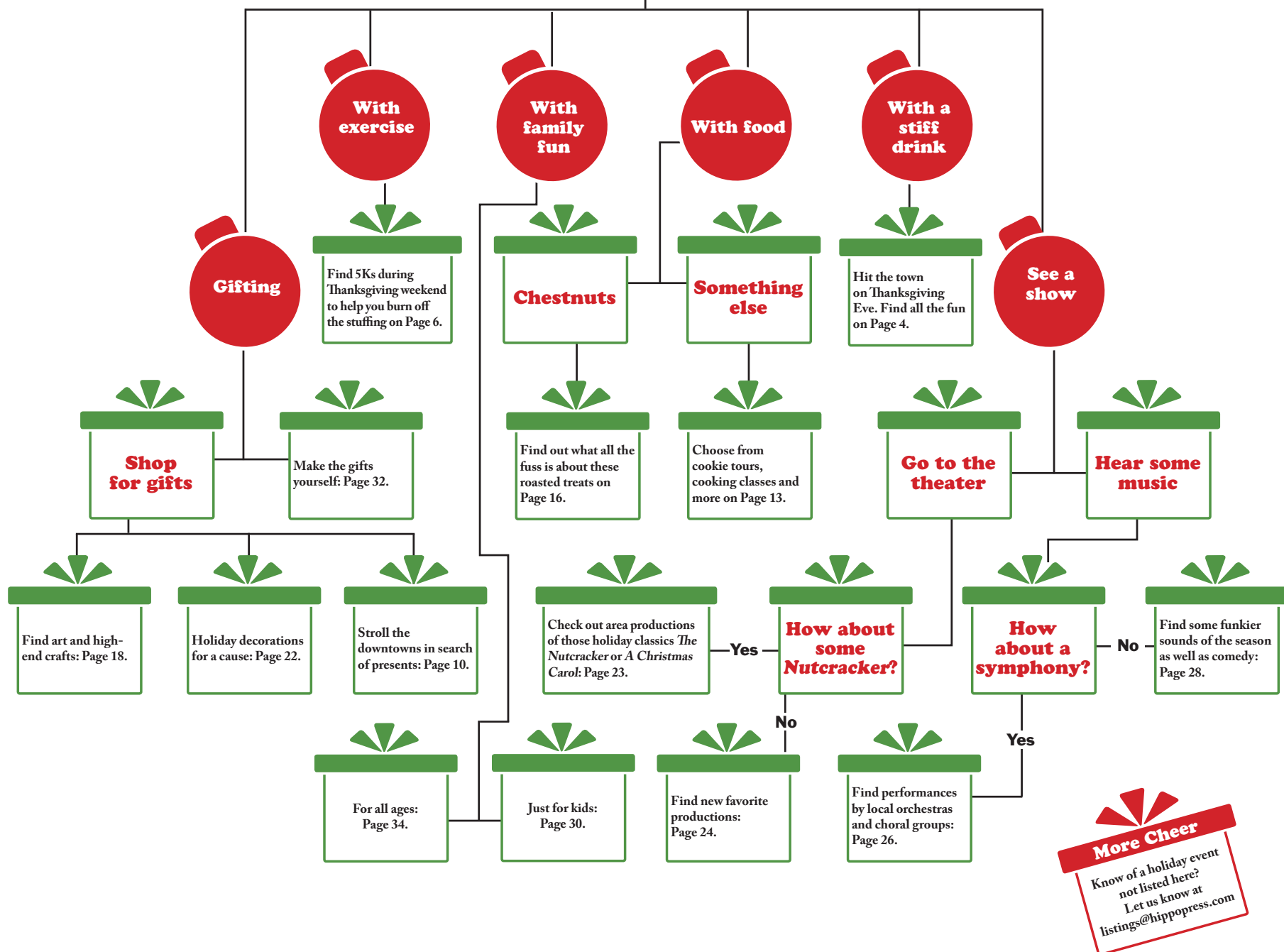
Holiday Guide **2012**



Choose your holiday adventure!

Just as there is a perfect present for everyone on your list, there is a perfect event (or two or five) for every taste. Looking to get out and add some excitement to your season? Here's how to start shopping for fun.

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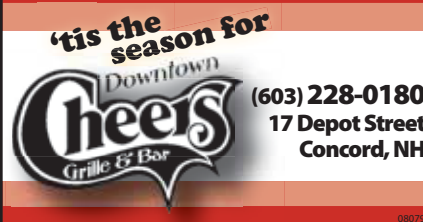
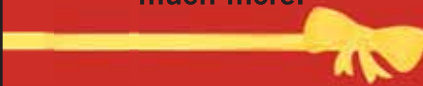
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Drinksgiving

It's the night before Turkey Day and time to party

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Eager shoppers look to Black Friday and Cyber Monday as the ultimate way to feed their needs, but for tavern owners, the biggest day of the year is the night before Thanksgiving. Call it Wet Wednesday, the Pre-T-Spree. Blame it on the influx of college students home for a long weekend, or the prospect of an entire day with Aunt Minerva, who just discovered Facebook. Either way, the bars are packed. Here's a rundown of local happenings.

- **Alan's** (133 N. Main St. in Boscawen, 753-6631) holds an open mike with Brad Myrick, who plays covers and original folk rock.

- **Arena Sportsbar & Nightclub** (53 High St. in Nashua, 881-9060) has its regular Symmetry EDM night with DJ Clever Girl.

- **Baja Beach Club @ China Bistro** (89 Lake St. in Laconia, 524-0008) has a special Ladies Night promotion with no cover charge and dollar drinks for ladies all night.

- **Barley House** (132 N. Main St. in Concord, 228-6363) offers Pub Trivia at 8 p.m. with teams of 1 to 6 people; get there early.

- **Blu** (1087 Elm St. in Manchester, 669-5523) features live music at 9 p.m. with popular rockers Stomping Melvin.

- **Blue Mermaid Island Grill** (the hill at Hanover and High streets in Portsmouth, 427-2583) holds an open mike with local musicians ranging from jazz to reggae to folk to rock, starting at 8:30 p.m. with no cover.

- **Boston Billiard Club** (55 Northeastern Blvd. in Nashua, 943-5630) continues an annual tradition: BBC's Thanksgiving Reunion Party.

- **Breezeway Pub** (14 Pearl St. in Manchester, 621-9111) has DJ Shawn McKay playing at 10 p.m. with no cover charge.

- **British Beer Co.** (1071 S. Willow St. in Manchester, 232-0677) Crunchy Monkey rocks the house while the last of the cranberry beer is tapped.

- **Chapangas** (168 Elm St. in Milford, 249-5214) Corey Brackett performs a pre-Turkey Day party.

- **Circle 9 Ranch** (Windymere Drive in Epsom, 736-9656) offers an evening Zumba class to prepare you for the feast.

- **Clark's Tavern** (40 Nashua St. in Milford, 769-3119) has the regular weekly open mike night.

- **Club Realm** (23 Amherst St. in Manchester, 935-7569) offers Latin Night with DJ K-Low playing all kinds of music.

- **Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern** (176 Mammoth Road in Londonderry, 437-2022) presents Steve Sibulkin performing a pre-holiday show.

- **Daniel Street Tavern** (111 Daniel St. in Portsmouth, 430-1011) has a Full Band



Dave Gerard from Truffle, which will play at the Dolphin Striker in Portsmouth. Courtesy photo.

Open Mike Night with Pete and the gang from Family Affair. Bring the whole band or just yourself and get in the jams, with \$3 beer specials all night.

- **Derryfield Country Club** (625 Mammoth Road in Manchester, 623-2880) welcomes Hypercane to rock out a Thanksgiving Eve party.

- **Dolphin Striker** (15 Bow St. in Portsmouth, 431-5222) offers local favorites Truffle playing acoustic music.

- **Dover Brick House** (2 Orchard St. in Dover, 749-3838) welcomes Lit on the Flash to celebrate Nirvana's 1991 *Nevermind* cover to cover, plus the best of Bleach and Insecticide, and two original sets along with Mother Leopard performing MGMT's *Oracular Spectacular*.

- **Drynk** (20 Old Granite St. in Manchester, 836-5251) has DJ Spivak in the main room and DJ Danjah on the deck.

- **Element Lounge** (1055 Elm St. in Manchester, 627-2922) has its usual 21+ giveaways after 9 p.m. with a variety of prizes.

- **Farm Bar & Grille** (1181 Elm St. in Manchester, 641-3276) offers \$5 Farm Faves specialty cocktails, \$3 single liquor drinks and \$2 Rolling Rock specials.

- **Fat Belly's** (2 Bow St. in Portsmouth, 610-4227) welcomes a reggaeton DJ spinning records.

- **Fody's Tavern** (9 Clinton St. in Nashua, 577-9015) holds its regular trivia night.

- **Fratello's Manchester** (155 Dow St. in Manchester, 624-2022) presents Alli Beaudry singing and playing a mix of covers and originals.

- **Fury's Publick House** (1 Washington Street in Dover, 617-3633) offers local rockers All We Are at 9 p.m.

- **Giuseppe's Restaurant** (312 Daniel Webster Highway in Meredith, 279-3313) has the music of Bob Rutherford on guitar and vocals from 6 to 9 p.m. followed by DJ dancing in the downstairs Grotto at 10 p.m.

- **Haluwa Lounge** (Nashua Mall in Nashua, 883-6662) offers karaoke for the brave and crazy.

- **Hermanos** (11 Hills Ave. in Concord, 224-5669) welcomes music from Mike Morris beginning at 6:30 p.m.

- **Holy Grail Food & Spirits** (64 Main St. in Epping, 679-9559) rolls out a special pint night sponsored by Shipyard Pumpkin, with music from The Scott Barnett Band.

- **Homestead** (641 Daniel Webster Highway in Merrimack, 429-2022) presents Brian Gray playing acoustic music.

- **Honey Pot Bar & Lounge** (920 Lafayette Rd. in Seabrook, 760-7704) holds a big hip-hop show with R.E. Clipz, P Dawt, T Money and Closed Casket at 9 p.m. \$10 cover.

- **J's Tavern** (63 Union Square in Milford, 249-9222) welcomes Lisa Guyer from Mama Kicks at 8 p.m. with no cover.

- **Jokers/Club Intrigue** (1279 S. Willow St. in Manchester, 935-9947) presents live Music with Will Metivier and beer pong fun beginning at 7 p.m.

- **Kelley's Row** (421 Central Ave. in Dover, 750-7081) welcomes local favorite singer and guitarist Tim Theriault, well-known for his work with Godsmack's Sully Erna.

- **Killarney's** at the Holiday Inn (9 Northeastern Blvd. in Nashua, 888-1551) keeps the Irish theme going with music from Kieran McNally.

- **La Bec Rouge** (73 Ocean Blvd. in Hampton, 926-5050) plans a rocking evening with young up-and-coming band Red

by Mary.

- **Lodge at Belmont** (Route 106 in Belmont, 877-872-2501) welcomes Eric Grant for what the club is calling the biggest Thanksgiving Eve party in history. Tickets are \$8.
- **Loudon Road Restaurant and Pit Road Lounge** (388 Loudon Road in Concord, 226-0533) has DJ music and live karaoke all night.
- **Mad Bob's Saloon** (342 Lincoln St. in Manchester, 669-3049) welcomes The Bars to perform at the 18th anniversary Ruin Your Mom's Thanksgiving Dinner bash.
- **Martha's Exchange** (185 Main St. in Nashua, 883-8781) has DJ Chris Beatz for a Thanksgiving eve bash.
- **Martingale Wharf** (99 Bow St. in Portsmouth, 431-0901) welcomes Josh Logan & Paul Costley at 8-11 p.m. for the first Pre-T-Day party at this new Seacoast nightspot.
- **McGarvey's** (1097 Elm St. in Manchester, 627-2721) has a Karaoke DJ for the biggest night of the year.
- **Memphis BBQ & Blues** (770 Elm St. in Milford, 672-3870) presents a blues jam with Otis and Friends.
- **Milly's Tavern** (500 Commercial St. in Manchester, 625-4444) holds the Aziz Homecoming, hosted by DJ Goulet. The show is all ages (bar w/ID at 9 p.m.) Tickets: 21+: \$2, 18+: \$10.
- **O'Shea's Tavern** (448 Amherst St. in Nashua, 886-0224) presents the weekly bar trivia night, along with top shelf cigars and extensive beer list.
- **Old Amsterdam Bar & Lounge** (8 Temple St. in Nashua, 204-5534) welcomes DJ Josh Porter, with specials including a \$3 vodka promo.
- **Pasta Loft** (241 Union Square in Milford, 672-2270) has live music with Small Town Stranded.
- **Pasta Loft Brickhouse Tavern** (220 East Main St. in East Hampstead, 378-0092) presents Morning Wood playing hard rock music.
- **Patrick's** (18 Weirs Road in Gilford, 293-0841) welcomes Lakes Region favorite Paul Warnick.
- **Penuche's Ale House Concord** (6 Pleasant St. in Concord, 228-9833) offers drink specials all night long.
- **Portsmouth Gas Light Co.** (64 Market St. in Portsmouth, 431-9122) will feature jam stalwarts Superfrog in a homecoming show with special guests.
- **Press Room** (77 Daniel St. in Portsmouth, 431-5186) continues an annual pre-Turkey Day tradition with Sons of Ralph & Randolph at 9 p.m.
- **Red Door** (107 State St. in Portsmouth, 373-6827) presents Red On Red with DJ Evaredy and it's ladies night with drink specials.
- **Ri Ra Irish Pub** (22 Market Square in Portsmouth, 319-1680) holds the regular pub trivia night.
- **Rusty Hammer** (49 Pleasant St. in Portsmouth, 436-9289) presents Comedy Open Mic Night.

- **Shasken** (309 Elm St. in Manchester, 625-0246) welcomes live music with the Aldous Collins Band.
- **Slade's Food & Spirits** (4 W. Hollis St. in Nashua, 886-1334) presents DJ Nick @ Night with no cover.
- **Social 24** (24 Depot St. in Manchester, 782-8489) welcomes live music from D-Comp, the duo of Demetri and Nate Comp.
- **Stage Door** (96 Hanover St. in Manchester, 626-9830) holds a dance party: Deep Into The Vybzs with Jeff Hyde, Kila Trax and The Ark.
- **Stone Church** (5 Granite St. in Newmarket, 292-3546) presents ApeSh!t aka Ape the Grim in a hip-hop show.
- **Strange Brew Tavern** (88 Market St. in Manchester, 666-4292) welcomes house favorites Mr. Nick and the Dirty Tricks for a night of blues rock.
- **Studio 99** (115 Main St., 3rd floor, in Nashua, 562-5179) holds the twice-monthly bluegrass jam hosted by Bob Pope, a veteran of the NH/MA bluegrass scene, including All Thumbs Bluegrass and Monadnock.
- **Stumble Inn Bar & Grill** (20 Rockingham Road in Londonderry, 432-3210) will be open with possible live entertainment.
- **True Brew Barista** (3 Bicentennial Square in Concord, 225-2776) welcomes New Hampshire native turned Nashville cat Dusty Gray to play country rock. Open till midnight.
- **Tupelo Music Hall** (2 Young Road in Londonderry, 437-5100) urges blues rock fans to check out The Ryan Montbleau Band.
- **Unums** (47 E. Pearl St. in Nashua, 821-6500) holds the second Fusion Wednesday with Matt Jackson playing covers and originals.
- **Village Square** (472 State St. in Hampstead, 329-6879) presents classic rock with the Bacre Boys.
- **Village Trestle** (25 Main St. in Goffstown, 497-8230) welcomes live music from the Bruce Marshall Group.
- **Wally's Pub** (144 Ashworth Ave. in Hampton, 926-6954) holds a big \$500 Thanksgiving Eve Beer Pong Turkey Toss w/ DJ Provo.
- **Wet Bar at Pages** (172 Hanover St. in Portsmouth, 436-0004) has a DJ downstairs (a pairing with promo company Wicked After Dark) along with a B Money Glow party. Upstairs, it's Bad Company tribute band Rock Steady (\$5 cover with proceeds donated to Bridge to Hope Foundation).
- **Whippersnappers** (44 Nashua Road No. 13 in Londonderry, 434-2660) presents Zappa disciples Bongo Fury.
- **Wicked Twisted Bar and Grill** (38 East Hollis St. in Nashua, 577-1718) welcomes Powerhouse to perform rock covers.
- **Wild Rover** (21 Kosciuszko St. in Manchester, 669-7722) offers Irish music, but the big deal is Thanksgiving dinner served all day on the big day.

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Bundle up and get moving Run your way through the holidays

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

Burn off the extra calories from your holiday feast before or on Thanksgiving by taking part in one of the season's many turkey trots. But don't stop there. The holiday season boasts plenty of holiday-themed races beyond Thanksgiving as well. Visit www.coolrunning.com.

Wednesday, Nov. 21

The 4th Annual **5K Turkey Trot** in Newton will kick off this year's slate of Thanksgiving-themed runs. The race will begin at 2:30 p.m. at Greenie Park, 85 So. Main St. All proceeds go to a local family in need. Bring nonperishable food donations. Call Kelli Rich at 978-807-7081 or send email to kiwikellbell88@yahoo.com. Visit www.runreg.com/Net/3181. Registration costs \$15.

Thursday, Nov. 22

The 14th Annual **Galloping Gobbler Four Mile Race** will take place at Bishop Brady High School, 25 Columbus Ave. in Concord. The race features a hilly course and a children's race. Call Maureen Kimball at 224-7418 ext. 223 or send email to mkimball@bishopbrady.edu. Visit www.bishopbrady.edu. Registration costs \$25.

Run, walk, bike or push a stroller at the 18th **Windham Turkey Trot**, which features three- and five-mile races at 9 a.m. at 70 Blossom Road. The race benefits The Shepherd's Pantry, Windham Helping Hands and other local charities. Visit www.windhamturkeytrot.org. Call Louise Peltz at 437-4422 or send email to WindhamTurkeyTrot@gmail.com. Runners must make a monetary donation of their choice. A \$15 donation gets runners a T-shirt.

The 2nd Annual **Fisher Cats Thanksgiving Day 5K** will begin at 9 a.m. at Fisher Cats Northeast Delta Dental Stadium, 1 Line Drive in Manchester. The race concludes inside Fisher Cats Stadium. Call John Mortimer at 512-1976 or email jmortimer@millenniumrunning.com. Visit www.millenniumrunning.com/thanksgiving. Registration costs \$25.

With proceeds benefiting local food pantries, the 39th **Annual Greater Derry Turkey Trot** will kick off at Galliens Town Beach on Beaver Lake, Route 102, in Derry at 9 a.m. Call Sean Coyle at 401-3822 or email smc612@aol.com. Visit www.coolrunning.com.

The 4th Annual Bow Police Association **5K Turkey Trot** will take place at 8 a.m. at Bow High School, 32 White Rock Hill Road. The race features a 5K run and a fun walk. Call Stacey Blanchette at 228-0511 or send email to sblanchette@bow-nh.gov. Registration costs \$25. Visit www.active.com/running/bow-nh/bow-police-association-4th-annual-5kturkey-trot-2012.

Run around Pierce Island at historic Straw-



Runners will take to the streets of Manchester for the Second Annual Santa Claus Shuffle on Saturday, Dec. 1. Courtesy photo.

bery Banke in Portsmouth for the 4th Annual **Turkey Trot** at 8:30 a.m. The race begins at 66 Marcy St. Call Laura Stewart at 319-8642 or email turkeytrotportsmouthnh@gmail.com. Visit www.seacoastrotary.org. Registration costs \$27.

Take part in a family tradition and run the 6th Annual **Lake Sunapee Turkey Trot** at Sunapee's Harbor Gazebo, 71 Main St., at 9 a.m. The event features a 5K run and walk, with a big hill at the beginning. Call Scott Blewitt at 763-2212, ext. 12, or email recreation@town.sunapee.nh.us. Visit sunapeeturkeytrot.com/wp. Registration costs \$20.

The **Dunbarton Estates Turkey Trot** will take runners through Francesca Way and Michela Way in Nottingham at 8 a.m. The race, which features a scenic route, raises money for the Nottingham Food Pantry. Call Bridget Zacher at 679-3604 or email deturkeytrot@gmail.com. Visit www.coolrunning.com.

The **Gilford Youth Center Turkey Trot 5K** kicks off at 19 Potter Hill Road at 9 a.m. The family walk begins at 8:45 a.m. Call Scott Hodsdon at 524-6978 or send email to gccscott@metrocast.net. Visit www.gilfordyouthcenter.com. Registration costs \$24.

Run through Mine Falls in Nashua during the **St. Joseph Hospital Great Gobbler Thanksgiving 5K** at 8 a.m. beginning at Nashua High School South, 36 Riverside St. The race also features a 400-meter kids run. Call John Mortimer at 512-1976 or send email to jmortimer@millenniumrunning.com. Visit www.stjosephhospital.com/Great-gobbler. Registration costs \$25 to \$30.

Get moving for the **Rochester Runners Free Fall 5K Run/Walk** at 8:30 a.m. at the Rochester Community Center, 1 Community Way. The course features a flat, out-and-back course, with proceeds benefiting Jer- ▶ 8

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ry's Food Pantry and the Stafford County Homeless Shelter. Call Dave Abbett at 617-8509 or send email to dave.abbett@gmail.com. Visit www.rochesterrunners.com. Registration costs \$5 to \$15.

Friday, Nov. 23

The Amherst Junior Women's Club **Turkey Trot**, which features a 5K run/walk will take place at Amherst Village Green in front of Town Hall. The one-mile run begins at 9:30 a.m. and the 5K begins at 10 a.m. Visit amherstjuniors.org/whats_new_6.html. Registration costs \$25 for the 5K and \$10 for the one-mile run.

Saturday, Nov. 24

Featuring no frills, the **5th Annual Pelham XC Alumni 5K** will begin at 11 a.m. at the Pelham Elementary School track, 61 Marsh Road. Runners can only register on race day. The race benefits Pelham High School cross country and features soup after the race. Call Justin Soucy at 498-8717 or send email to jstinsoucy@comcast.net. Visit www.facebook.com/events/286594421440512. Registration costs \$10.

Runners will down doughnuts as they run at the **Donut Derby 5K Fun Run** at Gould Hill Farm, 656 Gould Hill Road in Contoocook at 11 a.m. Runners will complete a four-lap trail run while consuming one cider doughnut per lap. Proceeds support Hopkinton High School Nordic. Call Rob Nadeau at 746-4167 or send email to robnadeau@tds.net. Visit www.gouldhillfarm.com/donut5k.html. Registration costs \$18.

Sunday, Nov. 25

Runners will burn off those hot turkey sandwiches as they run the first **Wolf Hollow Half Marathon & 5K** beginning at Stellos Stadium, 7 Riverside Drive in Nashua, at 8:15 a.m. Runners can opt for a two-person relay. The 5K begins at 9 a.m. The half marathon will take runners through Mine Falls Park. Call Michael Amarello at 429-8879 or email michael@3CRaceProductions.com. Visit www.wolfhollowhalfmarathon.com. Registration costs \$25 for individuals.

Saturday, Dec. 1

The **Jingle Bell 5K Trail Race/Walk** will kick off from the Plymouth Elementary School back fields, 43 Old Ward Bridge Road, at 9 a.m. The race will take runners along a cross-country trail. Call Fran Gonsalves at 536-1254, ext. 109, or send email to fgonsalves@sau48.org.

Just before the Spirit of the Season Manchester Christmas Parade, runners will take part in the **Manchester Santa Claus Shuffle**, a downtown Santa-themed run, at 3 p.m. beginning at Veterans Park, 700 Elm St. in Manchester. Call John Mortimer at 512-1976 or send email to jmortimer@millenniumrunning.com. Visit www.millenniumrunning.com/santa?doing_wp_cron=1352754739.1144819259643554687500. Registration costs \$30.

Sunday, Dec. 2

Enjoy a Mexican Fiesta following the **Disaster Relief 5K** from Margaritas Restaurant, 93 Portsmouth Ave. in Portsmouth, at 10 a.m. The event raises money to help with disaster relief from Hurricane Sandy. Call Michael St. Laurent at 659-2824 or send email to mike@locorunning.com. Visit www.disasterrelief5k.com/index.php. Registration costs \$20 to \$25.

Saturday, Dec. 8

Jingle Bell 5K Run/Walk for Arthritis will begin at 10 a.m. at Rundlett Middle School, 144 South St. in Concord. The event features a 5K, as well as a one- or three-mile walk. Registration costs \$20 to \$25. Visit www.concordjbr.kintera.org.

Sunday, Dec. 9

The **All I want For Christmas 5K** will begin at Exeter High School, 1 Blue Hawk Lane, at 10 a.m. Call Jessica Deans at 319-8904 or email jessicadeans3@gmail.com. Visit www.active.com/running/exeter-nh/all-i-want-for-christmas-5k-2012. Registration is \$30.

Enjoy the trails of the Beaver Brook Association during the **Beaver Brook Winter 5K** at 10 a.m. at 117 Ridge Road in Hollis. Call Michael Amarello at 429-8879 or send email to michael@3CRaceProductions.com. Visit www.3craceproductions.com/RacePages/BeaverBrook5K.htm. Registration costs \$20 to \$25.

Saturday, Dec. 22

The I survived the **End of the World Four-Mile Race** and One-Mile Run Fun will take place at 11 a.m. at Bishop Brady High School in Concord, 25 Columbus Ave. The race will benefit Habitat for Humanity. Call Four Miles for Habitat for Humanity Road at 224-7418 ext. 223 or send email to ssaagroves@bishopbrady.edu. Visit g2racereg.webconnex.com/habitat4m. Registration is a donation ranging from \$15 to \$100.

Tuesday, Jan. 1

Run through historic Portsmouth for the **Great Bay Resolution 5K** at 11 a.m. at the Little Harbour School on Clough Drive. Proceeds from the race will benefit Great Bay Services. Email Anne Lynch at annetlynch@gmail.com. Visit greatbayservices.org/events.aspx#16. Registration costs \$20.

Run downhill fast in the **Millennium Mile Road Race**, a point-to-point, downhill, one-mile road case at Londonderry High School, 295 Mammoth Road, at 2 p.m. Call John Mortimer at 512-1976 or send email to jmortimer@millenniumrunning.com. Visit www.millenniumrunning.com/millenniummile. Registration costs \$15.

The **Peanut Butter Chip Chase 5K** will take place at Temple Town Hall, Route 45, Town Common at noon. The event also features a fun run and walk. Call Michele Siegmman at 878-9066 or send email to godspeed@myfairpoint.net. Visit www.3craceproductions.com/RacePages/PBCC5K2013.pdf. Registration costs \$12 to \$15.

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People come from all over the region for the Winter Holiday Stroll in Nashua. Courtesy photo. photo.

City celebrations

Traditional fun, and then some

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

When what to my wondering eyes should appear but a miniature sleigh and — wait! Is that someone flipping through the air on a snowboard?

Five dump trucks will soon dump mounds of snow in the middle of downtown Nashua. The snow, with the help of a series of ramps, will become the playing field for the first rail jam competition in the middle of the annual Winter Holiday Stroll. Skiers and snowboarders will put on an aerial display, while all around, shoppers enjoy holiday treats, deals and performances.

Downtown organizations have different approaches for celebrating the holiday season. Some, like Concord's Midnight Merriment, emphasize holiday shopping as a way to get people together downtown. Others, like Manchester, get crowds with a parade. In Nashua, the emphasis touches all the bases: shopping, music, live performances and, this year, skiing and snowboarding.

"It's really so exciting," said Rebecca Dixon, executive director of Great American Downtown, which organizes Nashua's annual stroll. Dixon said she's hoping the Rail Jam will draw more people in the 13- to 21-year-old age range. "It's really right up their alley. We have this incredible sound system as well."

Zimmerman's, a ski and snowboard shop in Nashua, wanted to do something to kick off the winter season this year, Dixon said. It came up with the rail jam idea and the competition took off. Warren Miller's *Flow State*, a film highlighting some of the world's tallest mountains and most daring skiers and snowboarders, will be screened during the stroll.

The Holiday Stroll, which draws about 40,000 people to the Gate City's downtown each year, has long been a favorite event for people in the Nashua area. This year, the stroll

still features all of its traditional entertainment, shopping and strolling, along with the rail jam.

The stroll kicks off at 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24, with a candlelit walk from City Hall to the Hunt Building, culminating with a tree lighting. By 5:45 p.m., the entertainment slate, which features acts, music and performances in 25 venues in the downtown, will be in high gear, Dixon said. Performances include country music, bluegrass a cappella groups, magic shows, face painting and karate.

"It's such a talented group of fabulous entertainers, anything from ice carvers to really talented jazz musicians, along with choral groups and dance groups," Dixon said. "It's such a wonderful free family event. It gives downtown Nashua a chance to shine."

Intown Manchester's Spirit of New Hampshire Christmas Parade, which draws about 30,000 people each year, will take place this year on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 4 p.m. This year's parade will feature about 80 participants, including grand marshal and former Alderman Mike Lopez, who was instrumental in creating a "circle of peace" in Stanton Plaza, which will feature a tree lighting for each branch of the military.

"I think there is a sense that this has really become a statewide parade," said Sarah Beaudry, who handles marketing for Intown Manchester. "There's such a sense of community. It really embodies everything that's good about New Hampshire, that it's a good place to live and work and raise a family."

The parade will feature the Manchester Central High School marching band, as well as Miss New Hampshire, a float from New Hampshire Motor Speedway and the Star Wars Telecom Pioneers, which includes costumed *Star Wars* characters.

"It's such a positive time, and you can feel it and people are getting excited for Christmas," Beaudry said. "You can't help but feel thrilled yourself. Kids getting to see the ► 12



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◀ 10 horses or the marching band for the first time — it's just pretty amazing."

The parade will feature New Horizons as its spotlight charity this year.

"What they do is absolutely amazing," Beaudry said.

Liza Poinier, operations manager for Intown Concord, said retailers always do a great job decorating their stores and storefronts for Midnight Merriment each year, while also offering refreshments to shoppers. Midnight Merriment will take place on Friday, Dec. 7, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

"It seems to get a little bigger and better every year," Poinier said. "As more retailers have decided to participate, a couple of other events now go along with Midnight Merriment."

Parents can take their kids to Kimball Mansion at the Capitol Center for the Arts for storytelling tours. Midnight Merriment will also feature a winter arts market, which will offer a variety of handmade items. San-

ta Claus also is making an appearance at the Eagle Square atrium. Kids can drop off their Christmas wish letters at Santa's mailbox as well.

Midnight Merriment is a holiday shopper's paradise; shops stay open late, while offering holiday deals and promotions. Swing through downtown with friends, have a drink and a snack at a local restaurant, and embark on a holiday shopping mission. Enjoy the roving carolers as well.

"It's a huge night," Poinier said. "Retailers are generally very happy. ... Of course it's great for both the festive feeling and for cash registers' ring. It tends to be an excellent night for retailers. Some of them get really into it with really fancy decorations."

"It feels really magical to be downtown after hours," Poinier said. "It's chilly. The sidewalk is crowded. ... It makes for a really wonderful holiday feel. The night may be chilly but there are so many people on the sidewalk, it makes it warm and cozy."

Downtown holiday events

Amherst, the annual Tree Lighting Festival will begin on Friday, Dec. 7, at 6:30 p.m. at WWI Common when Santa lights the tree. Officials will read the names of those town residents who can't be with their families during the holidays because they are serving overseas in the military. Send email to Ann Bergin at ACBergin@aol.com.

Candia, Lights on the Hill will take place on Saturday, Dec. 8, and Sunday, Dec. 9, from 4 to 8 p.m. The event features a candlelit celebration in a country setting with music, live nativity animals, crafts and caroling, along with food. The event begins at the corner of Route 27 and South Road. Admission is free.

Concord, Midnight Merriment, a night of shopping, festivities and fun, will take place on Friday, Dec. 7, at 5:30 p.m. Retailers stay open late, while carolers and shoppers enjoy Concord's downtown.

Derry, the annual Holiday Parade, which features marching bands, civic leaders and plenty of floats, will take place on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 1 p.m. The parade coincides with Small Business Saturday, so expect plenty of hustle and bustle downtown.

Dunbarton, Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on Sunday, Dec. 2, from 6 to 7 p.m. on the Town Common, Stark Highway, Route 13. It will feature refreshments, caroling and Santa will stop in. Bring a canned good for the local food pantry.

Laconia, Annual Holiday Parade will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24. Parade will begin at Wyatt Park and end at Veterans Square with the lighting of the tree.

Manchester, the Manchester Spirit of the Season Christmas Parade, featuring about 80 participants, will take place on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 4 p.m.

Merrimack, the Holiday Parade and Tree

Lighting Ceremony will take place on Sunday, Dec. 2, with the parade running from 2 to 4 p.m., and the tree lighting taking place from 4 to 5 p.m. The parade will proceed south down Daniel Webster Highway from the Merrimack Commons, with special guests Santa and Mrs. Claus. The tree lighting will take place at Abbie Griffin Park and will feature entertainment and refreshments.

Milford, Jingle on Downtown, which features caroling at 4:30 p.m. and a Christmas tree lighting at 5 p.m., will take place on Saturday, Dec. 1.

Nashua, the Winter Holiday Stroll, which draws about 40,000 people to Nashua's downtown to enjoy food, drinks, shopping, live performances and a rail jam, will take place on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 5 p.m.

Penacook, Annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 6 p.m. on Merrimack Street. The event will feature caroling, cookies and hot chocolate.

Salem, the Holiday Parade will kick off at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 25, with plenty of floats and festivities.

Wilton, Annual Holiday Stroll with Santa will take place on Friday, Dec. 7, at 5:30 p.m. at the town gazebo. Selectman Bill Brennan and Santa Claus will arrive in a firetruck to begin the stroll. Downtown merchants will provide holiday treats and beverages.

Lowell, Mass., the City of Lights Parade and Holiday Celebration, featuring lighting of City Hall, magic performances, roving carolers and gallery shopping tours, will take place on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 4:30 p.m. The event will also include Children's Shopping Daw at the Pollard Memorial Library at noon, and a Holiday Express Village featuring quilted houses and a model train at the New England Quilt Museum from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fill your belly

Events range from cookie swaps to holiday feasts

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

Get into the holiday spirit, deliciously. These foodie gatherings, tastings, bake sales and Santa dinners are happening all over the Merrimack region and beyond. Whether learning tips for alleviating holiday entertaining stress or unwinding after a mid-December workday with a holiday cookie party, these events are sure to get you into the Christmas mood as we roll into December:

- **Kellerhaus'** (Route 3 between Meredith and Weirs Beach) annual **Cookies and Milk** with Santa event is on Friday, Nov. 23, from 2 to 4 p.m. Help celebrate the candy shop's 106 years of spreading cheer with free samples of 115 different candies, a personalized ornament, pictures with Saint Nick and his elves and prizes. Call 366-4466 or go to www.kellerhaus.com for more, and also check out the Open Haus events on Saturdays from Thanksgiving to New Year's Eve featuring free samples, free spiced cider and candy making demos from 1-3 p.m.

- Of course there is a dark side to the barrage of holiday sweets coming all at the end of the year, which is why the Food and Health Forum and Philbrick's Fresh Market will hold a **class on cravings, dieting, and healthy recipes**. Stave off the holiday season's enticing fare at Blue Moon Evolution (8 Clifford St., Exeter) on Monday, Nov. 26, 7-9 p.m. Register for the classes at Philbrick's in North Hampton and Portsmouth or online at www.foodandhealthforum.com. This class is \$45.

- **Holiday three-coursers** don't have to be all that hard; just have the chefs at Moulton Farm (18 Quarry Road, Meredith, 279-3915, www.moultonfarm.com) help you out. They'll share secrets on how

to create and serve the perfect holiday dinner at two Wednesday classes, Nov. 28 and Dec. 12, at 6 p.m. Pre-registration is required and the class is \$20 for workshop and samples. Sign up by phone or through moultonfarm@metrocast.net.

- **Eat breakfast with Kris Kringle** at Applebee's (581 Second St. Manchester, 641-6787) on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door and proceeds go to N-Step Dance Center's Competition Team to help fund their trip to nationals. Santa will be there for pictures, and there will be a 50-50 raffle and an all you can eat buffet with pancakes, eggs, sausage, coffee, juice and milk. Purchase tickets in advance by emailing nsteppc@gmail.com or visit the N-Step Hooksett studio at 1134 Hooksett Road.

- **Cookies and Christmas** go together so perfectly, it's hard to imagine the holiday without fresh cookies constantly coming out of the oven. At the Church of our Saviour (10 Amherst St., Milford), on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Christmas Fair will feature a full room of cookies to be decorated and gingerbread houses. Homemade gifts, a luncheon and a visit from Santa will highlight the event. Call 673-3309 or visit www.coosmilford.org.

- **A Ladies' Christmas Tea** will be held on Saturday, Dec. 1, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Family Life Center at Riverside Christian Church (27 Depot St., Merrimack, 424-1711, www.riversidechristian.com). Guest speaker Shauna Amick, director of Joni and Friends New England, will present her reflection "Make Room In Your Heart." Advance registration and payment are required; order tickets (\$10, \$5 for 12 and younger) online or by phone.

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Seriously Chocolate SliceNBake Cookies. Courtesy photo. photo.

Savior's (10 Amherst St., Milford, www.coosmilford.org) annual Christmas Fair on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Cookie Room features a large variety of homemade holiday cookies by the pound, and the Country Store features sliced-to-order Cabot cheese, homemade breads, preserves and more.

- Drink wine and shop at the same time. LaBelle Winery's (345 Route 101, Amherst, 672-9898, www.labellewinerynh.com) **Holiday Bazaar** is on Sunday, Dec. 2, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and you can peruse locally-made gift items from local artisans while enjoying LaBelle's holiday wines and cocktails. The winery's Great Room will be stocked with goods like gourmet treats, fine jewelry, wine-related items, gift certificates and much more, and LaBelle's bar will be open. Gift items range in price from \$5 to \$500 and a vendor list will be updated on their website soon. Wines will be for sale by the bottle as well.

- Go a-Wassailing at the **Wassail Party** with the Friends of the Bedford Public Library. On Sunday, Dec. 2, from 4 to 6 p.m., a musical theater adaptation of Tomie dePaola's *The Night of Las Posadas* will be performed in the McAllaster Room followed by plenty of wassail and food — and it's all free of charge, but limited to the first 100 attendees.

- Make your holidays **sparkle with a wine tasting** at Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown) on the evening of Thursday, Dec. 6, at 6:30 p.m. Taste six sparkling wines paired with tapas-sized appetizers. Meal-tasting is \$35 and reservations can be made at 887-8463 or www.zorvino.com.

- Liz Barbour's Creative Feast (Hollis, 321-5011, www.thecreativefeast.com) is holding **two elegant holiday dinner classes**, \$70 cooking demos that cover a simple, elegant four-course meal of grilled smoked trout, basil cream Zinfandel pasta, sautéed arugula duck breast in blackberry-wine

sauce and a lemon custard cake. Attendees get to eat, too, and taste wine. The class will be Friday, Dec. 7, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Granite State Cabinetry (384 Route 101, Bedford). Call or go online to register.

- Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road Canterbury) is holding its fifth annual **Gingerbread Spectacular** with public viewing and judging on two Saturdays, Dec. 8 and 15, from 3 to 8 p.m. Architects can enter by Saturday, Nov. 24, by calling 783-9077, ext. 230, or visiting www.shakers.org and drop-off their houses on Saturday, Dec. 1, or Monday, Dec. 3, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

- Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., No. 325, Dover, 842-4077) is holding a **holiday feast** of past, present and yet to come on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 6:30 p.m. The Christmas Carol dinner costs \$115, and reservations and menu updates are available at stages-dining.com/events.

- Over the hills and through the woods to the Monadnock Region you'll go on the **Currier and Ives Cookie Tour**, scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 8, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This self-guided tour gives guests a chance to take in Christmas décor of local businesses and enjoy homemade treats and recipes. Tickets cost \$10 and are available in advance on the day of the event at the participating businesses, including the Woodbound Inn, The Monadnock Inn, The Inn at East Hill Farm, Inn of the Tartan Fox, The Troy Historical Society, The Fitzwilliam Historical Society, Paper & Roses, Anytime Apparel, Little River Bed and Breakfast, Unbridled Chocolates, Swanzey Historical Museum, Common Collections and Santa's House at the Jaffrey Library. Tickets available starting Nov. 26, email cookieatour@yahoo.com.

- Santa's gotta eat. Join him for breakfast at the Amherst Area Newcomer's Club **Breakfast with Santa** at the Amherst Congregational Church (11 Church St., Amherst) on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 9 to 11 a.m. ► 16

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14 Enjoy a continental breakfast with Santa, as well as holiday crafts and games. Tickets are \$6; children under 12 admitted free and must be purchased in advance. To do so, call 672-2252.

• The fifth annual **Sugar and Spice Weekend** at the Brush Gallery & Artists Studio (256 Market St., Lowell, Mass., 978-459-7819, www.thebrush.org) features a cookie competition on Saturday, Dec. 8, and Sunday, Dec. 9, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Attendees can vote for their favorite treats after sampling selections made by Brush artists and board members.

• The Friends of the Chester Library's **Breakfast with Santa** is on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Chester Municipal Center (84 Chester St., Route 121, Chester). Pre-registration price is \$5 per person, or a \$20 charge for a family of six; admission at the door is \$6 per person, or \$25 for a family of six. Price includes breakfast, a free family photo with Santa, crafts, games, holiday stories and raffles. Additional Santa photos are \$2, and event proceeds benefit the Friends of the Chester Public Library. Call 887-3404 or email chesterpubliclibrary@gmail.com for tickets or information.

• **Mother Daughter Teas** at the Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, www.bedfordvillageinn.com) will be on Saturday, Dec. 9, and Saturday, Dec. 15. Enjoy loose-leaf teas, finger foods and live piano in the Overlook Dining Room. Reservations are required; event is \$34 adults and \$29 for kids ages 4 to 10.

• Tastier than a partridge in a pear tree, the Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main

St., Concord, 225-6840, www.concordfoodcoop.com) is holding the **12 Bites of Christmas** on Thursday, Dec. 13, 6-8 p.m. It features an array of festive appetizers, a wine tasting and live music. At \$10 per person, the event is a way to get ideas and taste catering options the Celery Stick Café has available for the holidays. Call 225-6840 or email esm@concordfoodcoop.coop. Tickets benefit the Concord-Merrimack SPCA.

• Chez Boucher (32 Depot Square, Hampton, 926-2202, www.chezboucher.com) is hosting several **holiday workshops** in the run-up to Christmas. Each is four hours long, running from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., costs \$75 and covers cooking and baking techniques in a hands-on fashion. A holiday dessert workshop is on Saturday, Dec. 15. On the following Saturday, Dec. 22, a holiday hors d'oeuvres class will walk-through recipes including blue cheese wrapped in apple bacon, cilantro chicken bites with pepper jelly glaze, lobster corn fritters with warm maple syrup, and other special appetizers.

• They are also having a **Cookie Swap** later in the season at the Concord Food Co-op, on Thursday, Dec. 20, 6-8 p.m. Join co-op staff, members and others to mingle and share cookies and baking tips. Just bring 24 of your favorite cookies in a container and a copy of the recipe to mix, match and share. Tag station and light holiday refreshments.

Hippo is on the lookout for holiday eats. Let us know about special Christmas, Hanukkah or New Year's Eve meals for dine in or take out at food@hippopress.com.

Simple and savory

Give roasted chestnuts a try

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

Even though chestnuts roasting on an open fire make up one of the most memorable lines of a holiday standard, some might be more familiar with the imagery than with the snack.

Roasted chestnuts yield a delicious, creamy flavor, and with little effort on the part of the cook, agreed Kathleen Shea, director of the New Hampshire Farm Museum in Milton, and Karen Sulewski, director of the Remick Country Doctor Museum and Farm in Tamworth. Whether chestnuts cook over an open fire or in the oven, roasting chestnuts is simple.

"They give off this great smell," Shea said. "I like them over an open fire. It gives them this great smoky flavor."

Chestnuts are a little more difficult to come by these days. The American chestnut tree, once a prevalent species throughout the eastern part of the country, has largely succumbed to blight. Typically, stores carry chestnuts grown in Europe.

"A lot of people never had chestnuts before," Shea said. "Nowadays you get them at the grocery store from Italy or France ...



Chestnuts cook over an open fire. Photo by Achromatic.

and they're kind of expensive."

Before the chestnut tree blight, people used to collect chestnuts in the fall and end up with a big mound of them. Biologists are trying to create a disease resistant variety of American chestnut trees, Shea said.

"American chestnuts were all over New England at one time," Shea said.

To begin, and regardless of whether a cook is using an oven or an open fire, Sulewski said to cut an X in the softest part ► 16

Happy Holidays from **A-Z**

- A** - Amaretti Cookies, Anise Oil, Antipasto Platter
- B** - Bird's Custard Powder, Beau Monde Seasoning
- C** - Chimichurri, Cavender's Greek Seasoning, Cheese Platter
- D** - Demiglace, Droste Cocoa
- E** - Espresso Martini Mixer, Eggplant Parmigian
- F** - Fresh Pasta, Farro, Fig Almond Cake
- G** - Gourmet Gift Baskets, Gumbo File, Gift Certificates
- H** - Harissa, Hot Pepper Jelly, Humboldt Fog Cheese
- I** - Imported Auricchio Provolone, Instant Espresso Powder, Illy Coffee
- J** - Juniper Berries, Jalepeno Stuffed Olives, Jan's Farmhouse Crisps
- K** - Kefalotiri Cheese, Kashmiri Curry Sauce
- L** - Locatelli Romano, Lake Champlain Chocolates
- M** - Manchego Spanish Cheese, Maple's Gelato
- N** - North Country Smoked Meats, Nicoise Olives
- O** - "OO" Flour, Old Bay Seasoning
- P** - Prosciutto di Parma, Pomegranate Champagne Vinegar, Pommery Mustard
- Q** - Quince Paste, Quebec 7 Year Cheddar, "Q" Tonic
- R** - Ravioli Forms, Rustichella 12 Year Balsamic Vinegar
- S** - Saffron, Stonewall Kitchen, Smith & Wollensky Steak Sauce
- T** - Truffle Oil, Tamarind Paste, Tortone
- U** - Urgelia Cow's Milk Cheese
- V** - Vanilla Beans, Vermont Common Crackers
- W** - Walnut Oil, White Mountain Crossword Puzzles
- X** - Xtra Virgin Olive Oils
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“16 of each chestnut. The soft part should have an off-white, creamy color and is noticeably softer. The X allows steam to escape while chestnuts cook, Shea said.

Cook chestnuts in a 425-degree oven for about 15 minutes.

“The texture is absolutely beautiful on your tongue,” Sulewski said, adding that roasted chestnuts can be eaten plain or tossed into stuffings or soups. “They’re just a real treat, once they cool down. Put a little salt on them. Oh my goodness, my mouth is watering just talking about his. I haven’t had them in a while but it’s such a good memory.”

If an open fire is accessible, people can cook chestnuts in a dutch oven over open coals. Sulewski said that’s the traditional way. First, let the Dutch oven warm up over the coals, then toss in the chestnuts and put the cover back on. Then, pile coals on top of the Dutch oven.

“You’ll actually hear them popping,” Sulewski said.

Doing it that way, it should take about half an hour to 45 minutes, she said.

“Actually, they’re the best in the dutch oven,” Sulewski said. “They are really, really good.”

Cooks could also take a metal pan and place it right on the coals, then toss the chestnuts in. After about five minutes, you roll them around so they cook evenly, and then check them after 10 to 12 minutes total, Shea said.

The New Hampshire Farm Museum roasts chestnuts every year over an open fire, for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. When chestnuts are done, the shell will be almost charred, but it will be easy to peel off, Shea said.

“If you cut it open with a knife, it should be pretty soft on the inside,” Shea said.

Artistic holidays

Find one-of-a-kind gifts with exhibits and craft fairs

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

For artists and crafters, this could very well be the most wonderful time of the year, with holiday craft fairs, exhibitions and tours for them to display and sell their work. There’s no shortage of artistic opportunities in the coming weeks, so make the most of them.

- **Crafts at the Town House** (1 Grove St., Peterborough) features a select group of New Hampshire craftsmen and artists to present handmade gifts for all ages on Friday, Nov. 23, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- There’s no place like home for the holidays, so Frisella Fine Art Studio (26 Old Manchester Road, Candia, frissellafineart.com) curated a show, “**Home for the Holidays**,” on display until Dec. 29. Opening receptions on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 2 to 7 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 25, from 2 to 5 p.m., will offer a look at the art, plus wine and hors d’oeuvres.

- The **First Annual Sanborn Holiday Craft Fair** is on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 25, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Sanborn Regional High School, 17 Danville Road, Kingston. Free admission.

- Nashua’s **Holiday Craft Fair** is on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Crowne Plaza, 2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua. More than 40 crafters and artisans will be selling handmade, hand-crafted items. There will also be raffles, prizes and a bake sale table. Email teamtutas@gmail.com.

- The **New Boston Holiday Craft Fair** is on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Whipple Free Library, 67 Mont Vernon St., New Boston. Ten to 15 artists will be selling handcrafted items, such as scarves, wool/alpaca sweaters, recycled handbags, earrings, greeting cards, gift wrap, vegan dog biscuits, essential oil perfume and more.

- The **Designing Women Fine Arts and Crafts Holiday Show** is on Saturday, Nov.

24, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Frank Jones Center, 400 US Highway 1 Bypass, Portsmouth, with handcrafted pottery, handbags, glasswork, clothing, stained glass, lotions and more. There is a suggested \$2 donation. Visit designingwomen.org.

- The **Christmas Fair** at the Unitarian Red House in Wilton Center is on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Specialty items will be available, from wreaths and greens to gift baskets and crafts. Visit uuwilton.org.

- InTown Manchester (Brady Sullivan Plaza, 1000 Elm St., Manchester) hosts a whole month of weekend artful shopping at its **Holiday Market** on Thursdays, Nov. 29, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20, from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. More than 40 local vendors will sell their artisan goods all month. Expect to find custom woodworking, glassware, handmade jewelry and baked goods.

- Take a trip to the University of New Hampshire’s Memorial Union Building (83 Main St., Durham) on Thursday, Nov. 29, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., for the **Evergreen Fair**. Fifty artists and craft makers will be selling goods. Thursday’s fair features music by Master R.P. Hale, and Friday’s features the New England Harp Orchestra. Call 934-6248 or visit www.facebook.com/evergreenfair.

- The annual **Pine Hill Waldorf School Holiday Fair** (77 Pine Hill Drive, Wilton) is on Friday, Nov. 30, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday’s event is for adults and will feature shopping, massages and makeovers. On Saturday, the marketplace opens for the whole family, with children’s crafts, storytelling, puppet shows and circus performances. Admission is free. Call 654-6003 or visit www.pinehill.org.

- The Loading Dock Gallery’s (122 Western Ave., Lowell, theloadingdockgallery.com)



The Gallery's "View from Exeter Library" by Exeter artist Lauren Chuslo-Shur.

Winter Lights V Art Exhibit will present glittery, wintry works of art, combining the talent of more than 20 Western Ave. artists, Nov. 28 through Dec. 30. Acrylic paintings, mini-paintings, polymer clay jewelry, shibori-dyed scarves and hand-woven table runners will be available for buying. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 5 to 7 p.m. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call 978-710-8605.

- Head to the **Girl Scout Craft Fair** at St. Joseph's Church (777 W. Hollis St., Nashua) on Friday, Nov. 30, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. All the crafts will be made by the Scouts and cost \$8 or less. Proceeds benefit the Girl Scouts.

- Grab something crafty at the **GFWC Hudson Junior Woman's Craft Fair** on Saturday, Dec. 1, at Hudson Memorial School (1 Memorial Drive, Hudson). Admission is free. Artists and craftspeople who want to take part should call 594-0332 or email debbieandjeff1@comcast.net.

- Festively decorated with a miniature North Pole village and vintage dollhouse representing Santa's workshop, the New Hampshire Antique Co-op holds its annual **Holiday Open House** on Saturday, Dec. 1, and Sunday, Dec. 2, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 323 Elm St., Milford, 673-8499, nhantiquecoop.com. Children can write letters for Santa and post them in an old-fashioned mailbox, while grown-ups can visit the Discovery Barn and Loft for antiques.

- The Wild Salamander Creative Arts Center's Whitty Gallery (30 Ash St., Route 130, Hollis) hosts "**100 Square Feet of Art**" from Saturday, Dec. 1, through Thursday, Jan. 31, with an opening reception Friday, Nov. 30, from 5 to 8 p.m. The show features watercolor, oil and acrylic paintings, mixed media, pen and ink and more, all by regional artists. Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. on weekdays, noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays in December. Call 465-9453 or visit wildsalamander.com. There's also a **Holiday Make and take Gift Fair** on Saturday, Dec. 15, from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for kids ages 5 and older.

- East Colony Fine Art (55 S. Commercial St., Manchester) hosts a **Holiday Open House** on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., selling original art.

- The **35th Annual Contoocook Artisans Holiday Fair** is Friday, Nov. 30, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to

4 p.m., at Saint Andrew's Parish Hall, 354 Main St., Hopkinton. Thirty-five local artisans will be featured, selling pottery, fabric apparel, hand-blown glass, paintings, knitted items, stained glass, beadwork, quilts and more. Visit starrystarryweekend.blogspot.com.

- **The Christmas Craft Show** at the Amos J. Blake House Museum (66 Route 119 West, Fitzwilliam) takes visitors on a trip back in time to a holiday setting and a variety of juried craft items Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 585-7742 or email fhs@myfairpoint.net.

- Local artisans and craftspeople of Strafford open their studios on Saturday, Dec. 1, and Sunday, Dec. 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., with **Christmas in Strafford**. More than 20 locations will be open, and handcrafted items will be for sale. Visit Strafford Town Hall (12 Mountain View Drive, Strafford), the Hill Library (1151 Parker Mountain Road, Strafford), Sheilah's Deli and Market (Bow Lake Village, Strafford) or the Isinglass Store (410 Roller Coaster Road, Strafford) for a map; or get one at christmasinstraftordnh.com. Purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win a gift basket.

- Take in the holiday spirit with crafts, baked goods and live music at the **Christmas in the Village Fair** at Chester Congregational & Baptist Church Vestry (4 Chester St., Chester) Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 887-4799 or visit chesternhchurch.org.

- The Concord Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord, theaudi.org) features holiday visual art at the **Holiday Open Gallery Tour** on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The show, curated by Kimball-Jenkins School of Art, will be available for viewing all month.

- The **Annual Capital Area Artisans Fair** is on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Presidential Oaks, 200 Pleasant St., Concord. This free event offers designer mantel displays, pictures with Santa, handmade fresh wreaths and decorated tree displays.

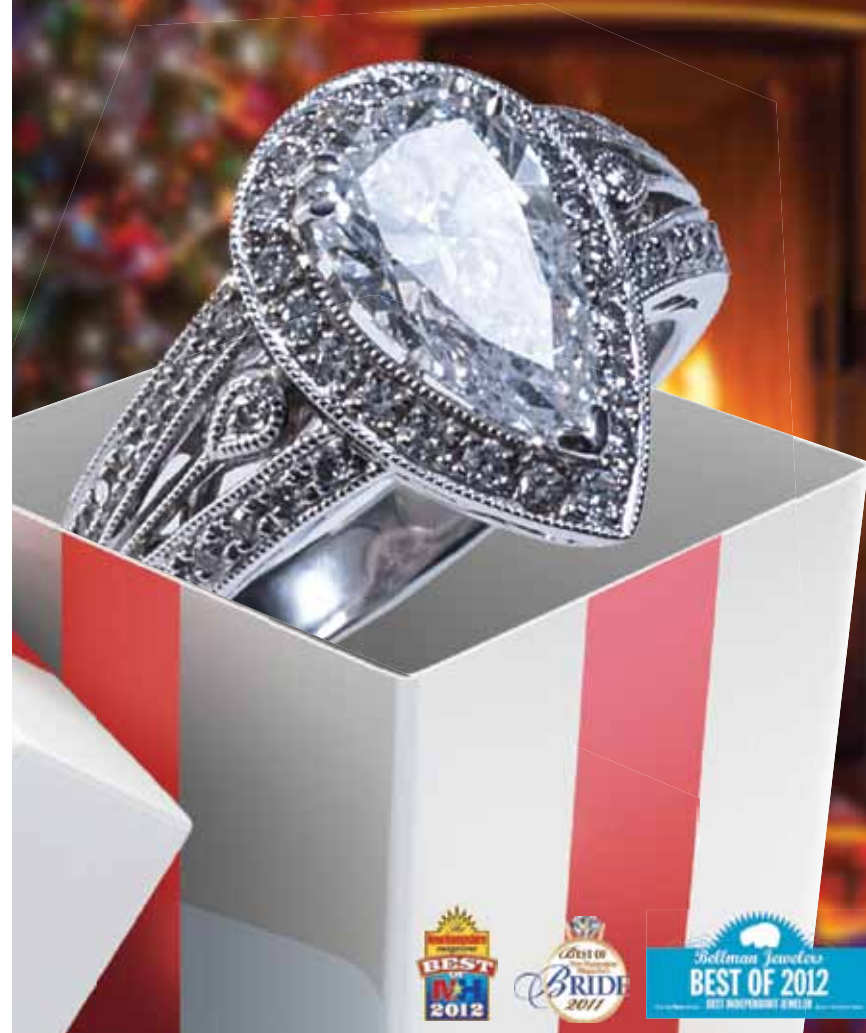
- The **SIBS NH Holiday Vendor and Craft Fair** is on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at First Baptist Church, 121 Main St., Nashua. Thirty-one crafters will be showing their work. Visitors can come for the crafts, silent auction, pancake breakfast or pizza lunch. Visit sibs-nh.com.

- **Milford** has a plethora of fairs on Saturday, Dec. 1, with holiday activities taking

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place all day and at the Milford Winter Farmer's Market in Town Hall. The shuttle stops at the **MHS Music Boosters/Milford PTO Shop 'Til You Drop**, with crafts, vendors and decorations, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; the **First Congregational Church Holly Berry Fair** at 10 Union St., with gift baskets, greens and wreaths, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; the **Unitarian Universalist/Stone Church Holiday Craft Fair**, 20 Elm St., from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; the **Share Christmas Fair**, at 1 Columbus Ave., with crafters, Santa Claus and a bake sale, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; at **Bridge Church**, 65 W. St., with crafts, refreshments, cookies and a handbell choir, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; **Crestwood Care and Rehab**, 40 Crosby St., with crafts, a Chinese raffle, centerpieces and a bake sale, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; **Milford Winter Farmer's Market** at Milford Town Hall (1 Union Square, Milford), from 9 a.m. to noon; the **Church of Our Savior Christmas Fair** (10 Amherst St.) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; the **Candle Sale** to benefit the Souhegan Valley Boys & Girls Club, at Riverway E. Road, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and the **United Methodist Church Christmas Fair**, 327 N. River Road, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• **The Picker Place Holiday Open House** (99 Factory St., Ground Floor, Nashua) is on Saturday, Dec. 1, from noon to 4 p.m. Local artists will have holiday music, refreshments and an array of locally made art, photography, textiles, cards, gift items, gift certificates and more. Visit pickerbuilding.com.

• **The Temple Adath Yeshurun Sisterhood Craft Fair** is Sunday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 152 Prospect St., Manchester, and will feature textiles, purses, knitted goods, blown glass, jewelry, gemstones, photo cards, chocolate, books, a raffle, cookbook sale, and music by AutoHarpists.

• Sharon Arts Center (30 Grove St., Peterborough) is holding its own kind of CSA; in this case, CSA stands for **Community Supported Art**. CSArt comprises 10 artists who receive a stipend for creating 50 "shares" for the program; shares of 10 works are priced at \$350, and can be paid for in two installments of \$175. The artists are selected faculty, alumni and students from the New Hampshire Institute of Art. Call 924-7676 or visit sharonarts.org. There's a "Pick-Up Party" on Thursday, Dec. 6, from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

• **Rockingham Park's Annual New England Holiday Craft Festival** is Friday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 79 Rockingham Park Blvd., Salem. Admission is \$7 for all three days. More than 200 of the region's craftsmen and women will sell their candles, turned wood, pottery, scarves, tapestry, fine jewelry, quilts, basketry, photography, oil paintings and more.

• **The Bishop Brady High School Holiday Artisan Fair** is on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Bishop Brady High School, 25 Columbus Ave., Concord. Visitors can purchase New Hampshire-made maple products, jams, jewelry, soaps, body products, quilts, fleece wear, pottery and more.

• **The Library Street Street Holiday Craft Fair** is on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 22 Library St., Hudson. The fair will feature crafts, raffles, a bake table and kids' craft area.

• Get jolly at the **Hollytown Fair** at the Arlington Street United Methodist Church (63 Arlington St., Nashua), on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Check out crafts, jewelry, baked goods, a children's area and silent auctions. Contact Samantha at 882-2489 or samjean@comcast.net.

• Visit the **Christmas Fair** at Greenland Community Congregational Church (44 Post Road, Greenland) on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Guests can enjoy a cookie walk, handcrafted items made by the church's Women's Alliance, gifts created by the Greenland Boy Scouts and Girl Scout troops, tables of jewelry, gourmet food, locally made products, and a visit from Santa. The fair's silent auction will be the center of the event, featuring artwork and handmade items, restaurant gift certificates, passes to area attractions, gift baskets and more. Admission is free. Call 436-8336 or visit www.communitychurchofgreenland.org.

• See some of the most decorated homes in the area at the **Holiday Home Tour** on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 3 p.m. The Palace Theatre and local businesses are sponsoring the tour, which will visit four Bedford homes decorated for the holidays. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 on the day of the tour. Visit palacetheatre.org.

• See the League of NH Craftmen's **Holidays Around the World** exhibit at the League of NH Craftsmen Headquarters, 49 Main St., Concord. Handmade ornaments, jewelry, a nativity set, mugs, vases, tablecloths, folk art and more. The Gallery is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., until Wednesday, Dec. 12. Call 224-3375 or visit nhcrafts.org.

• The **Seacoast Artist Association** is celebrating the season with some wintry work at The Gallery (225 Water St., Exeter, seacoastartist.org, gallery@seacoastartist.org, 778-8856). Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and as of Dec. 2, Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. Also at The Gallery is a gift-themed wall, "Big Gifts Come in Small Packages," which is on display until the end of December.

• The Gallery (100 Market St., Portsmouth) hosts a "**Fall Into Winter**" fine art exhibition through Jan. 18. The 21-artist exhibition features a photo series, surreal pop, textile art, traditional and contemporary representational art, metal sculpture and abstract art, in one of the most diverse exhibits at the gallery to date.

• **The Mill Brook Gallery** (236 Hopkinton Road, Concord, themillbrookgallery.com, 226-2046) presents **Artful Giving 2012**. Each year, the gallery offers gifts made by local artists and craftspeople, starting at \$15 for a keychain, \$25 for a ceramic cup and \$55 for a pair of handmade sterling silver earrings. Framed pastels and small oil paintings are \$250 and up. There's an open house from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. each Saturday and Sunday in December. Children are welcome to run around the gallery's annual outdoor sculpture exhibit.

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Maxfield Parrish, *Freeman Farm: Winter*, 1935, oil on board. Currier Museum of Art.

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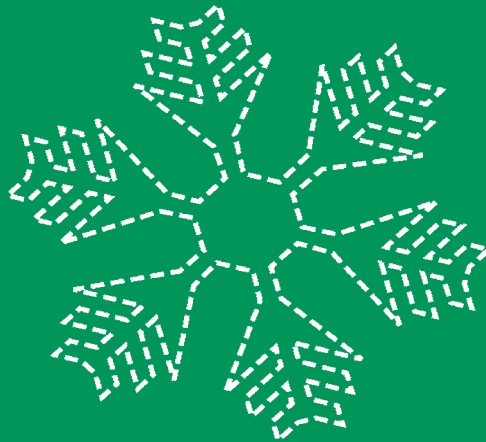
Ornament for a cause

Holiday cards, decorations help raise cash

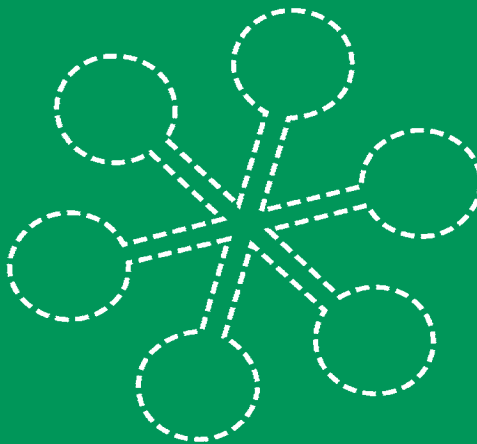
By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com



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The League of NH Craftsmen's ornament.

Looking for a gift with local flavor or a new ornament for your tree? Several local groups offer holiday decorations and present ideas that help do a little good.

- The **League of NH Craftsmen's** limited edition annual ornament for 2012 is Woodland Treasure by Aaron Slater, a handcrafted autumnal acorn piece with a copper oak leaf from a self-taught, master glass craftsman who creates pieces that reflect nature and incorporate found objects. Woodland Treasure comes gift-boxed and sells for \$24.50 at League of NH Craftsmen Retail Galleries (98 Main St., Nashua, 595-8233; 36 North Main St., Concord, 228-8171) or at www.nhcrafts.org, where other gallery locations are listed. Visit the league's Meredith Retail Gallery (279 DW Highway, Meredith) on Sunday, Dec. 2, from 1 to 3 p.m., and meet Slater, who will demonstrate how he made the ornament and describe his techniques. Call 279-7920.

- The 2012 ornament for the **American Independence Museum** (1 Ladds Lane, Exeter, 772-2622, www.independence-museum.org) is a 2 1/2-inch enameled piece created by Lovell Designs in Portland, Maine. This is the fourth in the series and features the linked ring of colonies, a symbol of unity that was used on the flag of New Hampshire's second regiment. Ornaments are \$14.95 apiece, plus \$2 for shipping per ornament, and come boxed and ready to hang. For ordering information call or visit the museum website.

- Pewter Christmas ornaments from the **New Hampshire Historical Society Museum Store** (6 Eagle Square Concord, 856-0625) come in the shape of all sorts of New Hampshire icons, such as a moose, the Concord Coach, the Cornish-Windsor Covered Bridge and General John Stark. The Concord Coach is also available as a suncatcher, handmade from glass for display in windows. Visit the store in person or online at www.nhhistory.org.

- **Manchester Historic Association's** 2012 ornament features the Amoskeag Locomotive and sells for \$21.95. The ornament, along with past year's ornaments (featuring city hall, the Ash Stree School, Ste. Marie's Church and other Queen City sites) is on sale in the gift shop at the the Millyard Museum, 200 Bedford St. in Manchester, 622-7531, or at www.manchesterhistoric.org.

- The **Easter Seals of NH** is hoping to raise money with a hostess gift of holiday flowers and treats. Visit www.easterseals.com/flowers to order through

ProFlowers, which will donate \$10 to Easter Seals to help local children and adults with autism and other disabilities. Both themed containers shaped in turkeys or pumpkins and more classic vase styles are available, prices range from \$20 to \$80. Call the Easter Seals at 623-8863 for more information.

- Greeting card season is upon us, and 2012 cards from the **Court Appointed Special Advocates of New Hampshire** are available. Sixteen new designs of greeting cards have been added for this year's card fundraiser, which serves abused and neglected children in the New Hampshire court system. Again this year local artists from all around the Granite State have submitted artwork. Seasonal, year-round everyday greeting cards are also available this year. Order through www.casanh.org and add a personal greeting or your company logo to the cards. Questions should be directed to showen@casanh.org or 626-4600, ext. 2118.

- The **Animal Rescue League's** (545 Route 101, Bedford, 472-3647; 223 East Main St., Conway, 447-5955) Cash Calendar is on sale for \$20, and purchasing one not only goes to benefit the animal shelter, but qualifies for 15 chances in a money raffle. Calendars are available at either Rescue League location or at various events, listed online at www.rescueleague.org.

- And instead of a star at the top of the tree, how about getting a star in the sky? The **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center**, 2 Institute Drive in Concord, www.starhop.com, has an "adopt a star" program. For \$125, adopt one of the stars projected during the "Tonight's Sky" show at the planetarium for a year (get it for 10 years for \$1,000). The adoption fee includes two tickets to the "Tonight's Sky" show.

- Get a taste of New Hampshire outdoors with the **2013 NH Fish and Wildlife Calendar**. The calendar costs \$9.95 and is for sale at www.wildlife.state.nh.us.



Northern Ballet Theater's *Nutcracker*. Courtesy photo.

Gerald Charles Dickens. Courtesy photo.

Two tales, lots of choices

Nutcracker & *Christmas Carol* return to local stages

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Sugar plums, giant nutcrackers, grouchy old men and the ghosts of Christmas past will be dancing, or, in the case of Scrooge, complaining on stage this holiday season. On many stages, in fact. (Are you surprised?) With this list here, however, you can pick and choose your adventure, based on time, location or price.

- **The Nutcracker** also plays at the **Palace Theatre**, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Friday, Nov. 23, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 24, at 11 a.m., 4 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 25, at 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., featuring Southern New Hampshire Dance Theater and a live orchestra. Tickets range in price, \$15-\$45. Visit palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588.

- **New England Dance Ensemble** presents *The Nutcracker* on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 25, at 2 p.m., at the Windham High School Theatre, 64 London Bridge Road, Windham. This full-scale professional holiday production includes a cast of 100, and features national American Ballet Theatre and Broadway stars arriving from NYC. Visit NEDE.org, tix.com or call 1-800-595-4TIX. Tickets start at \$20.

- **Gerald Charles Dickens** returns to Nashua for the fourth consecutive year to perform his great-great-grandfather's classic, *A Christmas Carol*, at the Crowne Plaza (2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua) on Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 7 p.m. and Thursday, Nov. 29, at 7 p.m. He'll depict 26 characters from *A Christmas Carol* with just a table, a wingback chair and a hat rack to accompany him on stage. Dinner performance scheduled for Nov. 28; Tickets are \$90 for Nov. 28, \$20 for

Nov. 29. Call 882-3371 or 800-583-4583 or visit fortingage.com.

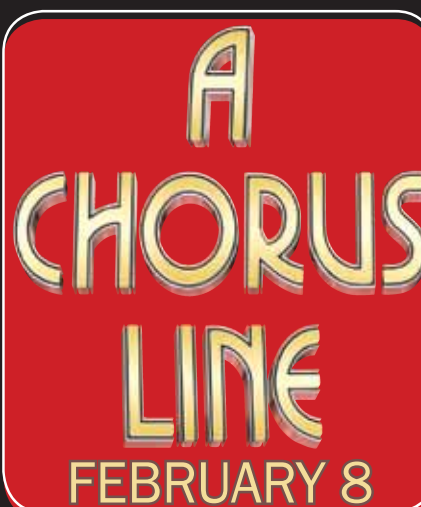
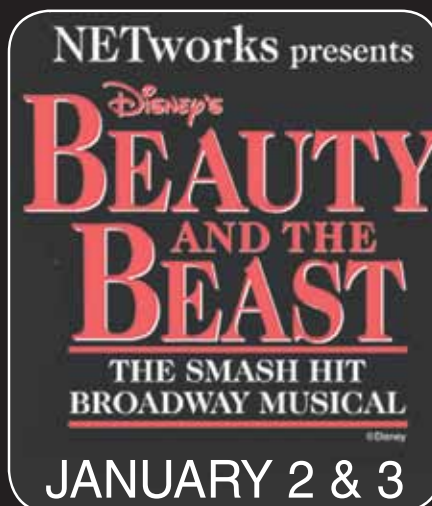
- **The Palace Theatre** will also be hosting Charles Dickens' classic story, *A Christmas Carol*, with lively song and dance and over 50 actors. See Scrooge change his ways with three visiting ghosts, taking him to Christmas past, present and future this holiday season, with shows on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, Nov. 30 through Dec. 23. Visit palacetheatre.org for showtimes. Tickets are \$15 to \$45, available online. The show was also voted Best Live Theater Show in Manchester by Hippo readers.

- See the **Leddy Center's** take of *A Christmas Carol* (38 Ladds Lane, Epping, 679-2781) in the new theatre at Verdant Pastures, Nov. 30 through Dec. 9. Performances Friday, Nov. 30, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 1, at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 2, at 2 p.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 2 p.m.; Friday Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 9, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$16-\$18. Visit leddycenter.org. Pictured, Steve Koch is Ebenezer Scrooge and Spencer Gregory is the Street Boy.

- *The Nutcracker* will also be cracking at the Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 1 and 6 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 2, at 1 p.m., featuring the **Gate City Ballet**. Tickets are \$18. Visit stockbridgetheatre.com.

- The **St. Paul's School Ballet Company** performs their annual production of *The Nutcracker: Act II* on Friday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m., at Memorial Hall, St. Paul's School, 325 Pleasant St., Concord, 229-5626. Admission to this 45-minute show is free. Visit sps.edu/dance or call 229-5626.

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• Portsmouth's *Nutcracker*, heralded as "An 1836 Portsmouth Nutcracker," appears for its 25th season at **The Historic Music Hall** (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, the-music-hall.org). Full-length performances (\$30.50-\$41.50) are on Friday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 16, at 2:30 p.m. *Nutcracker* in a Nutshell (\$25.50-\$30.50) performances are on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 10 a.m. and Sunday, Dec. 16, at 11:30 a.m. The Seacoast-revised production features the Goodwin Family who dwelled at Strawberry Banke in a snowstorm in front of Market Square's North Church and a dream scene that occurs at the Piscataqua River Harbor. More than 100 locally casted dancers and actors will fill the stage. Call 433-3100.

• The Concord Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord) features two renditions of *The*

Nutcracker. The first is on Friday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m., featuring the **New Hampshire School of Ballet**, directed by Jennifer Reinert. Tickets are \$15 at Gibson's Bookstore and at the door; visit nhschoolofballet.com or call 668-5330.

• Clara will be played by 16-year-old Nashua native Logan Magras at the **North-ern Ballet Theatre's** rendition of *The Nutcracker* at the Keefe Auditorium (Elm St., Nashua) on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 16, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$18 to \$22; Call 889-8408 or visit nbtde.com.

The Turning Pointe Center of Dance will be twirling on Friday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m., celebrating the 30th annual performance of *The Nutcracker*, directed by Lisa Drouin Goff. Tickets are \$15 at the UPS Store, 75 S. Main St., Concord, and at the door; Call 485-8710.



Every Christmas Story Ever Told. Courtesy photo.

No Tiny Tim here

Theater companies present new holiday tales

By Kelly Sennott

ksennott@hippopress.com

As classic as Tiny Tim's exclamation "God bless us, everyone" is at the end of every single *Christmas Carol* play, sometimes you just want to watch something different from that cookie-cutter holiday-cheer production. Whether it be *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* or *Every Christmas Story Ever Told*, or, if you really want to break out of the ordinary, *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues*, chances are you'll find something here that will get you in the holiday mood, sans Tiny Tim.

• The Seacoast Repertory Theatre wraps it all up with *Plaid Tidings*, Nov. 30 through Dec. 30, a brand-new revue offering the best of *Forever Plaid*, with a three-minute-and-eleven-seconds version of *The Ed Sullivan Show*, featuring the Rockettes, the Chipmunks, the Vienna Boys Choir and

a Plaid Caribbean Christmas. Shows run Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, Nov. 29 through Dec. 23, at 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, 433-4793, info@seacoastrep.org. Visit the seacoastrep.org for showtimes and ticket prices.

• Bedford Youth Company wants to top them all at *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* on Friday, Nov. 30, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 1, at 1 p.m., at the Derryfield School, 2108 River Road, Manchester. Based on the 1972 award-winning book by Barbara Robinson, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* is the story of a family of incorrigible children who discover the Christmas story for the first time, and who help others rediscover its true meaning. Reserved seats cost \$12 for adults, \$10 for students. Purchase at door or call 472-3894.

• If you're looking to move away from the cookie-cutter holiday show, you might

try to try **The Eighth: Reindeer Monologues**, produced by Neptune Sushi, on Friday, Nov. 30, at 8 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 1, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., at The Acting Loft, 670 N. Commercial St., Manchester. Here you have a dark, dark comedy about a Christmas scandal erupting at the North Pole, when Vixen accuses Santa of sexual harassment. Tickets are \$15 each, which will be available at the door one hour prior to showtime. Order tickets ahead of time by emailing aaronfoss@gmail.com.

• The Concord Dance Academy holds its **Holiday Spectacular** on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 1 p.m. and at 6 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 2, at 1 p.m., at the Concord Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. The show consists of all styles of dance and a variety of holiday songs. The baked goods sale, holiday 50/50 raffle and free Santa photo allow the school to make donations to the community, including the Friendly Kitchen, Toys for Tots, March of Dimes and the Salvation Army Pantry. Tickets are \$12. Call 226-0200, visit concorddanceacademy.com or visit the dance academy at 26 Commercial St., Concord.

A Dickens' of a Christmas returns for its 10th Year at the Old Salt Restaurant, Lafayette Road, Hampton, on Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 12, at 6 p.m.; and Thursday, Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. The story follows Charles Dickens. He's stumped on what he should get his children for the holiday. He decides on a story, gathering inspiration from his friends. The evening boasts a gourmet, three-course dinner, live music, holiday carols and the show. Tickets are \$39.99 per person. Reserve by calling the Old Salt Restaurant, 926-0330.

• If you want to get the entire Christmas experience in one show, you can check out **Every Christmas Story Ever Told (and then some!)** on Thursday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m., at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111). Three actors are performing, that's right, every Christmas story ever told, in addition to throwing in some holiday traditions from around the world, taking in some seasonal icons from ancient times to pop culture, and singing every carol every sung. Tickets are \$15, ccanh.com. The group will also perform on Friday, Dec. 7, at 8 p.m., at The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, themusichall.org), where tickets are \$21.75.

• Life-Line Drama takes a different approach to the traditional Nativity story in **An Unexpected Gift** on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., and on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 4 p.m. at the Derry Memorial Opera House, 29 W. Broadway, Derry; and on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., at the Amato Center for the Performing Arts, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford. This modern take was and produced by local New Hampshire artists. Tickets are \$10 per person, which can be purchased at lifelinedrama.com.

• The Majestic Theatre presents **The Gifts of the Magi**, on Friday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 9, at 1 p.m., at the Chateau Event Center (201 Hanover St., Manchester, 627-2677). Jim and Della, out of work and penniless, have to scrape up the money to give one another gifts for the holidays. They give up their most prized possessions in order to buy presents for one another. The \$32-\$35 ticket includes a dinner along with the show. Order tickets by calling 669-7469 or by emailing majestictheatre.net.

• See George, Mary, Clarence, Mr. Potter and the whole gang in the Riverbend Youth Company's **It's A Wonderful Life** at the Amato Center (56 Mont Vernon St., Milford) on Friday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday Dec. 9, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and \$8, available at the door. Visit svbgc.org.

• More than 100 young performers from all over New Hampshire will perform in this spectacle of dance of music in **The Twelve Days of Christmas** on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 1 p.m. and at 4 p.m., at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord, ccanh.com, 225-1111). The holiday show features performers from Eastern Ballet Institute and live music by the Concord Community Music School's Purple Finches Children's Chorus and the Cabbageheads. Complementing these groups will be an 18-foot, light-up pear tree with a dancing partridge in her nest. Tickets are \$12.50 for students and seniors, \$16.50 for adults.

• You'll hear about the bells and the angels wings again with Pontine Theatre's take on **It's A Wonderful Life** on Friday, Dec. 14, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 15, at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 16, at 2 p.m., at West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, 436-6660. Tickets are \$24. Visit pontine.org.

• **The Ragpicker's Dream**, a production by Kent Stephens' Stage Force, comprises of stories, laughter, poetry and song, with new material and old favorites from a wide array of classic and contemporary material, and shows at The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 433-3100, on Sunday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m., and Monday, Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$18. Visit themusichall.org.

• Just Love to Sing will perform **Amahl and the Night Visitors** on Friday, Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m., at the Franklin Opera House, 316 Central St., Franklin. Tickets are \$15; call 934-1901 or visit justlovetosing.com.

• All Saints Anglican Church in Concord presents **Amahl and the Night Visitors** on Saturday, Dec. 22, at 7 p.m., with Christopher Martinez singing the role of Amahl and Jane Cormier as Mother in this Giancarlo Menotti operatic story. This is a free event; call 781-5695 or visit justlovetosing.com.

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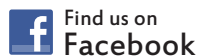
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'Jingle all the way'

Christmas music comes to life

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Looking for holiday music with more life than the loop of carols playing at the mall? From symphonies offering a mix of classical standards and holiday pops to choral societies, here are some musical happenings that go way beyond "Jingle Bells."

- Get a little bit of everything at the **NH Philharmonic Holiday Pops concert** at Stockbridge Theatre, 44 N. Main St., Derry, stockbridgetheatre.com, Saturday, Nov. 24, at 7:30 p.m. The program includes selections from The Nutcracker, Vivaldi Gloria, a Christmas carol sing-along and other holiday favorites. The Phil will perform with choristers from Pinkerton Academy for this full-orchestra concert, conducted by Mark Latham and hosted by Amy Covenor of WMUR-TV. Tickets are \$12 to \$50. Visit nhphilharmonic.org.

- **Rob Dionne** of the Majestic Theatre performs a holiday edition of his piano/vocal cabaret on Saturday, Nov. 24, at the Samuel and May Gruber Recital Hall, at the Manchester Community Music School, 2291 Elm St., Manchester. General admission tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Refreshments will be available. Call 669-7469 or email majestictheatre.net.

- The **Mara Flynn Trio**, featuring Kent Allyn and special guest Ben Baldwin, offers a jazzy way to listen to classic tunes at the Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 433-3100, themusichall.org) on Friday, Nov. 30, at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

- It's time to get brassy at the **Brassy Baroque Christmas concert** featuring Robert Stibler on trumpet, Abbey Hallberg Siegfried on organ and Mark Zielinski and Adam Gallant on trumpets. The music happens on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 7:30 p.m., at St. John's Episcopal Church, Portsmouth, and features Baroque music for the Christmas season by Bach, Balbastre, Vivaldi and Lu Bague. Call 862-2404 or visit unh.edu/music to learn more about this free concert.

- The Saint Anselm College Choir performs their **Annual December Song concert** on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 7:30 p.m., in the Abbey Church (100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester). The event is a special service of readings and songs, celebrating the Christmas season. Admission is free, but arrive early for parking and seating.

- Rhythm of New Hampshire Annual Show "**The Holiday Wish**" is on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., at the Derry Opera House, 29 W. Broadway, Derry. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors. Call 800-696-7351 to purchase tickets.

- **Colors of Winter Winter NH Gay Men's Chorus Concert Series** performances are on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 7:30 p.m., at Nashua Community College (505 Amherst St.), Judd Gregg Hall Auditorium, Nashua; Sunday, Dec. 2, at 4 p.m., at the South Congregational Church (27 Pleasant St.) in Concord; Satur-

day, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m., at Christ Episcopal Church in Portsmouth (1035 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth, 436-8842); and Sunday, Dec. 9, at 4 p.m., at Derryfield School (2108 River Road) in Manchester.

- The **Strafford Wind Symphony Community Holiday Pops Concert** is on Sunday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m., at the Emmanuel Church Family Life Center, 24 Eastern Ave., Rochester, 749-9246. Accompanied by *The Polar Express* narration by Tom Haines. Visit straffordwindsymphony.org. This is a free event.

- The First Congregational Church of Dunbarton, 6 Stark Highway North, Dunbarton, dccucc.org, hosts its **Annual Holiday Concert** on Sunday, Dec. 2, at 4 p.m., where visitors will enjoy music, food and raffles. Tickets cost \$12 (\$5 children). Call 774-4992.

- Natalie MacMaster performs at the Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth), **Christmas in Cape Breton**, on Sunday, Dec. 2, at 2 and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35 to \$44. Purchase tickets at themusichall.org or 433-3100.

- Get holiday concert that's part theater performance in "**Home for the Holidays**," as the cast transports audiences into their holiday party, where they'll harmonize and pay homage to traditional holiday favorites. It's Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, themusichall.org, 433-3100). Tickets are \$28 for general admission, \$53 for VIP seating and a reception.

- Have an Irish Christmas with **Solas in Concert** on Friday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. This Irish music group combines fresh and unexpected arrangements of age-old classics, with guitar, whistle, keyboard, concertina, bodhran and soaring vocals. The show is at the Dana Center at Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700. Tickets are \$32.50 for adult reserved seating, \$27.50 for faculty, staff, alumni and senior citizens, \$12.50 for NH college students and children under 14. Visit anselm.edu.

- The Concord Auditorium is full of holiday fun on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m., with a **Christmas Celebration** presented by the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. Brian Waldron will lead a cast of 40 choristers and a special Nativity pageant. Tickets are \$10, available at the IHM Parish Rectory or by calling 856-3420.

- Take in the tale of the coming of Christ at "**Behold the Lamb of God**," a concert at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111 ccanh.com) on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. The show is a collection of songs about Jesus, featuring singers/songwriters Jill Phillips, Andy Gullahom, Ben Shive, Andrew Osenga and more. Tickets are \$22 to \$47.

- The Hampstead Public Library (9 Mary E. Clark Drive, Hampstead, 329-6411) offers a free **Holiday Tea and Concert** on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with refreshments, crafts for kids and a sweater competition (best sweater outfit wins), plus entertainment by **Profile Chorus** of 28

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◀ 26 The chorus will also host an open sing on Monday, Nov. 26, from 7 to 9 p.m.; women of all vocal ranges are welcome to attend. Call 858-0002.

- Granite Statesmen (granitestatesmen.org, membership@granitestatesmen.org) has its **23rd Annual Christmas Cabaret** on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 1 and 7:30 p.m., at St. Joseph's Church, 777 W. Hollis St., Nashua. Tickets are \$15 (\$12 for seniors and students, \$3 for children) for the afternoon show. Tickets for the evening show (which includes a trip from Santa) are \$18 (\$15 for seniors and students, \$6 for children). Performers include the Nashua Granite Statesmen, On Air, Showcase, and New England Voices in Harmony.

- **Manchester Choral Society** (mcsnh.org, rlynn20@comcast.net) will carol at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester) on Saturday, Dec. 8, at noon; and at the NH For the Holidays Expo (300 Elm St., Manchester) on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m. They'll also perform "The Peacemakers" at St. Joseph Cathedral (145 Lowell St., Manchester) on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 16, at 3 p.m.; tickets are \$25.

- Reaganta and the New England Irish Harp Orchestra will return to the Concord Library (45 Green St., Concord, 230-3682) on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m., to get locals into the holiday spirit with beautiful, lively **Irish Music of the Season**. This is a free event.

- The **Souhegan Valley Chorus 2012 Fall Concert** is on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 6 p.m., at Souhegan High School (412 Boston Post Road, Amherst), with the theme "Christmas Around the World."

- The Granite State Symphony Orchestra hosts its **Holiday Pops Concert** on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 3 p.m., at Concord Auditorium (2

Prince St., Concord, 384-0000). Enjoy holiday favorites, sing-alongs, the youth chorus and a guest conductor from the North Pole. Tickets are \$20 at Pompanoosuc Mills, gssoc.org, or the door. Call 226-4776.

- Harpist **Lisa Washington** Calvo will play holiday music in the rotunda of Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) on Thursday, Dec. 13, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m..

- Symphony NH performs its annual **Holiday Pops** concert on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m., at the renovated Keefe Memorial Auditorium (117 Elm St., Nashua). Tickets are \$12 to \$48. Visit symphonynh.org.

- **The Merrimack Holiday Pops** concert is on Sunday, Dec. 16, at 4 p.m., at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord, ccanh.com). This is a free event, but tickets are sold out; however, standby tickets are available. Standby ticket holders will be given priority for any seats that remain unclaimed 15 minutes before the start of the performance. Call the Capitol Center box office at 225-1111. Doors open for seating approximately 45 minutes before showtime.

- There's a free **holiday concert** at the Nashua Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610) on Sunday, Dec. 16, at 2 p.m., featuring flutist Aubrie Dionne and harpist Piper Runnion-Bareford. Visit nashualibrary.org/directions.htm or call 589-4610.

- Celebrate at **The First Gift of Christmas Holiday Pops** concert with the Strafford Wind Symphony on Sunday, Dec. 23, at 6:30 p.m., at the Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester. Tickets are \$12 (\$7 for children younger than 12). Call 335-1992.

Night out on the town

Comedy shows and concerts abound this season

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

Bah humbug to tradition. Rock out, split your sides, or folk it up with these "not-quite-*The Nutcracker*" shows. From comedy to concerts, take a break from the traditional and step out for an evening of enjoyment.

- Vince Guaraldi's **Charlie Brown Christmas** comes to life at a performance of the Eric Mintel Quartet on Friday, Nov. 30, at 7 p.m. at the Stockbridge Theatre (44 N. Main St., Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com). Tickets are \$15. Call or visit the site for reservations.

- The **Vintage Christmas** series is coming to The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 433-3100, www.themusicall.org) on Friday, Nov. 30, kicking off with jazz from the Mara Flynn Trio. Flynn, a long with Kent Allyn and Ben Baldwin, will start the celebration at 4:30 p.m. in the Music Loft. Tickets are \$5 and ordering information and additional series dates for the series are available online.

- Kick-off the **Rockin Holiday Bash Children's Auction** on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m. Join the country music group Eric

Grant Band at the Lake Opechee Inn and Spa Conference Center (62 Doris Ray Court, Laconia) to benefit the 98.3 WLNH Children's Auction. Tickets to the hoedown are \$60 and come complete with mouth-watering country barbecue from O Steak and Seafood. Visit www.childrensauction.com for information.

- **Ed Gerhard's 21st Annual Holiday Concert** is on Saturday, Dec. 1, starting at 7:30 p.m. at his traditional Lakes Region venue, the Belknap Mill (25 Beacon St., Laconia). Holiday music along with a food drive to benefit the Community Action/Laconia Area Food Pantry; please bring a donation. Tickets are \$22.95 and available at www.edgerhard.com or by calling 664-7200. Refreshments will be available.

- **Jim Brickman — On a Winter's Night** features what the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, www.palacetheatre.org) calls a "revolutionary" solo piano sound, with romantic- and pop-influenced instrumentals. He has done high-profile vocal collaborations including Lady Antebellum, Kenny Loggins, Carly Simon, Herb Alpert, Donny Osmond and

...livia Newton-John. He'll be performing at the theater on Tuesday, Dec. 4, at 7:30 p.m., tickets are \$44.50 or \$59.50 for Golden Circle seating and a pre-show meet and greet. Check out www.jimbrickman.com for information on the artist.

• **Home for the Holidays Showtime**, a musical transportation to a holiday party of singing harmonies and traditional holiday favorites, is happening on Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth; tickets are \$28 and available online.

• The Casual 6 are playing the fifth annual **Santa Fund Benefit and Dance** at Martha's Exchange (185 Main St., Nashua, 883-8781, www.marthas-exchange.com) on Friday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and go to donations of money, gifts, clothing and more to give needy area families a happy holidays. Call 508-1044 or email beatkeeper101@aol.com for details or to order tickets. Get reservations for dining at Martha's, it may be busy.

• The **Laurie Berkner Band** is bringing its brand of holiday tunes — songs about Christmas lights, Hanukkah candles, and just having fun in the snow — to the Lowell Memorial Auditorium (50 East Merrimack St., Lowell, 937-8688, www.lowellmemorialauditorium.com) on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 1 p.m. A limited number of VIP tickets will be available for \$100, which include a post show meet and greet, and general admission starts at \$35. Purchase tickets at 978-454-2299 or on the venue website.

• **Rock My Soul**, a 20-member roots-based gospel choir, and its sister, select group The RMS Five will be holding the **Rockin' Gospel Holiday Concert** on Saturday, Dec. 8, at St. John's Methodist Church (28 Cataract Ave., Dover). The RMS Five will hold a concert on Sunday, Dec. 16, in Greenland at the Community Church (2 Post Road). Both shows start at 4 p.m. Tickets on Dec. 8 are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door and for Dec. 16 are \$10 advance, \$12 at door. The RMS Five will be releasing its first Christmas album, crowd-funded from Kickstarter.com, which will be available at the performances.

• He's Brian O'Donovan, and he's leaving the airwaves of 89.7 WGBH for **A Christmas Celtic Sojourn** at the Stockbridge Theatre (44 N. Main St., Derry, 437-5210, www.stockbridgetheatre.com) on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. This is the tenth anniversary and the Stockbridge is the first stop showcasing some of the best musicians, singers and dancers from around the Celtic world. Tickets start at \$35.

• The Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord, 228-1196, www.cccmusicsschool.org) is hosting a **Holiday Folk Concert** on Saturday, Dec. 15, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. General admission is \$12. Usher in the Holidays with performances by David Surette, Susie Burke and Kent Allyn in the school's recital hall. Vocal and instrumental arrangements of Christmas carols and seasonal songs, along with folk and acoustic fare from the trio's repertoire, with influences from folk to jazz, celtic, rock,

blues and beyond. Call or visit the website for information.

• The Lowell Memorial Auditorium (50 East Merrimack St., Lowell, 937-8688, www.lowellmemorialauditorium.com) is also hosting **Martina McBride's Joy of Christmas** on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. McBride is a Grammy-winning country superstar stopping in Lowell for her Christmas tour, a celebration of family, fun and great music. McBride is a four-time CMA Female Vocalist of the Year. Tickets start at \$61.50 and can be ordered by calling 978-454-2299 or online.

• The **Buzz Christmas Ball** is on Tuesday, Dec. 18, 7 p.m., at the Palace Theater (Hanover St., Manchester, www.palacetheatretickets.org). A holiday tradition, this event is hosted by Greg and the Morning Buzz from 100.3 WHEB and is returning to the historic Palace Theatre for a fast paced, holiday variety show with live music, comedians, special guests and holiday characters. The Velvet Elves, a 12-piece rock and roll orchestra straight from the North Pole, will be performing with guests including Charlie Farren, Deric Dyer, Jimmy Dunn, the Tornado Alley Horns, the NH All-Star Singers, *Christmas Carol* cast members and some surprises. Starting at \$30, tickets on sale online or by phone at 668-5588.

• On Tuesday, Dec. 18, The Historic Theater at The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 433-3100, www.themusichall.org) will host **Messiah Sing**. Grab your score and join some area choruses and conductors in a community singing event. Tickets are \$16 and are available online, showtime is 7:30 p.m.

• **Bellevue Cadillac's Annual Christmas** is coming to the Tupelo Music Hall (2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, www.tupelohall.com) on Friday, Dec. 21, at 8 p.m. These multi-Grammy nominees have been featured on TV shows like *The Sopranos* and *Sex and the City* and major motion pictures *Shallow Hal* and *Me, Myself and Irene*. Cadillac's multi-generational musical experience mixes jazz, jive, swing, rhythm and blues, soul, doo wop and all things rock.

• For a comical conclusion to the Vintage Christmas Series, check out **Merry Funny New England Christmas with Juston McKinney and the Gaudy Baubles** at The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 433-3100, www.themusichall.org) on Friday, Dec. 21, at 8 p.m.

• Influenced by his father's record collection, mainly '70s singer-songwriters, and hair metal rock and roll discs of his sisters, Stephen Kellogg's music represents a meeting point of both and, for the holidays Kellogg, front man of The Sixers, will be performing some favorite songs and originals from a solo album set for release in the spring at **Stephen Kellogg: Alone for the Holidays** at the Tupelo Music Hall (2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, www.tupelohall.com) on Saturday, Dec. 29, at 8 p.m.

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The New Hampshire Antique Co-op will be hosting a mini-North Pole village scene created by Beverly Weir-Longacre. Courtesy photo.

Frosty family fun

So much to do before the new year

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

Whether its bursting down the stairs on Christmas morning, lighting the candles on Hanukkah or Kwanzaa, taking that first bite of Thanksgiving pie, or, of course, opening presents, some of the best childhood memories are made over the holiday season. Check out some these events for even more memory-making this winter.

Sure, store-bought ornaments look nice, but what's better than hanging your own handcrafted ornament from the tree? Swing by the **Holiday Extravaganza** at the Weare Town Hall (15 Flanders Memorial Hall Road, Weare) for the Holiday Extravaganza on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. While parents can shop through a variety of items from local vendors, kids can make a free ornament to take home. The holiday treats will also be flowing with a hot chocolate and pastry bar. The event is sponsored by the Weare Area Chamber of Commerce. Call 529-7211, email wearechambernh@gmail.com or visit www.wearechamber.org.

Downtown Nashua has been a New England holiday destination for nearly two decades since it began hosting the **Holiday Stroll**. This year's event, held Saturday, Nov. 24, from 5 to 10 p.m., will be the 19th annual stroll, and with Main Street blocked from traffic, visitors can check out elaborate ice sculptures, a candlelight procession and live entertainment. The city's Christmas tree will be lit and kids can visit with Santa. The stroll will feature an extreme sports edge for the first time this year as snowboarders will put on a show in the first ever Snowboarding Rail Jam right in the middle of Main Street. Call 883-5700 or visit www.downtownnashua.org/holidaystroll.

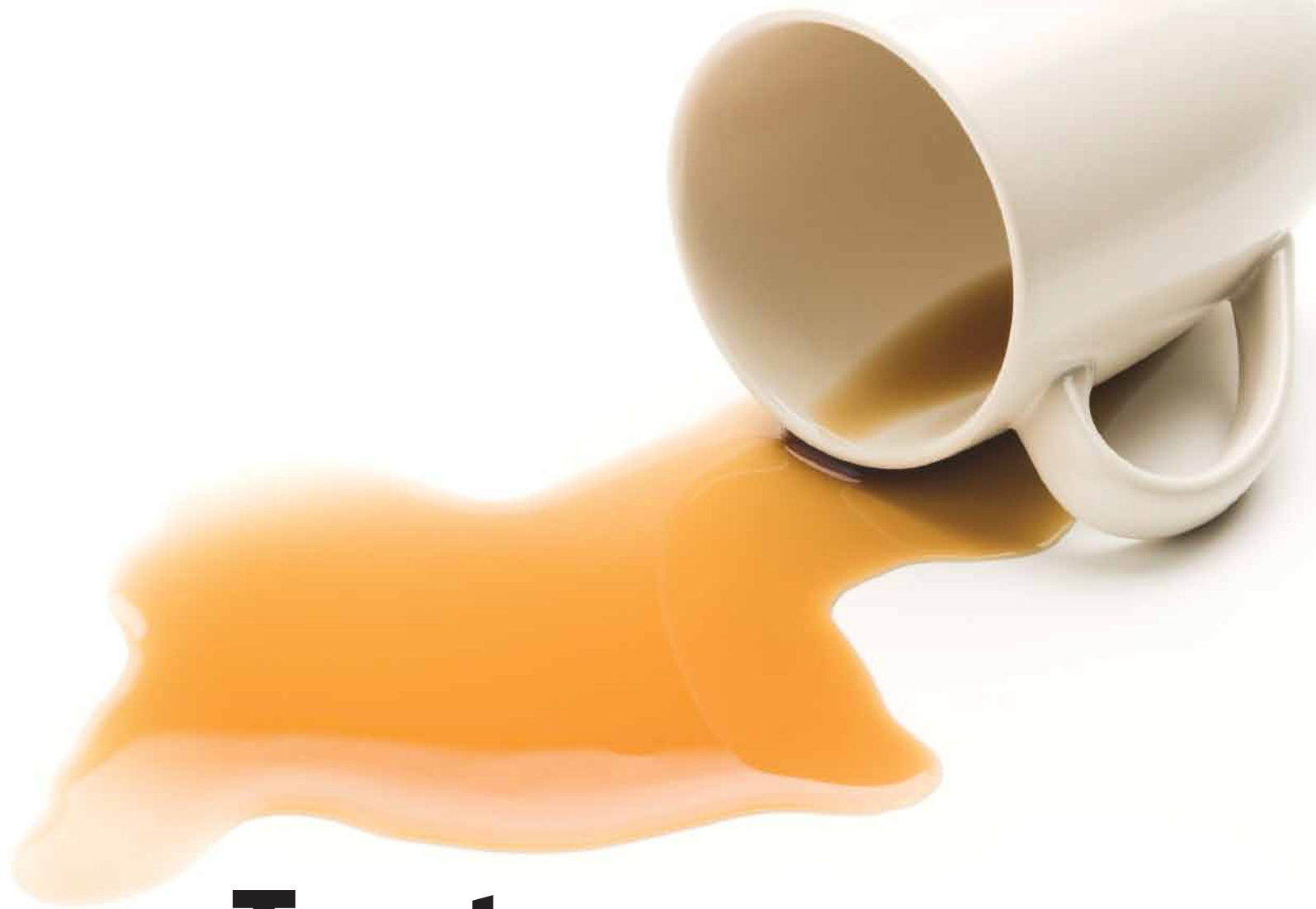
It's party time on the farm. **Santa will be visiting Charmingfare Farm** (774 High St., Candia) each weekend leading up to Christmas for a holiday party packed with

activity. Each weekend from Saturday, Nov. 24, through Sunday, Dec. 23, visit the farm for a horse-drawn ride to the party where kids will be greeted by costumed characters, cookies, hot cocoa and Santa himself. In addition to a meeting with Santa, kids will get to see the farm's animals and take a pony ride. Admission is \$17 and advance purchase is recommended. The last ride leaves at 1 p.m. each day. Call 483-5623 or visit www.visitthefarm.com.

Santa and Mrs. Claus are coming to the Lakes Region. Wave to the big man himself as he makes his way through the Laconia **Holiday Parade route**, which begins at Wyatt Park and ends at Veterans Square. Bands and floats will also be part of the parade, which is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 24, at 1 p.m. Call 524-5531 or visit www.lakesregion-chamber.org.

The Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) is giving kids multiple opportunities to create their own holiday craft to take home. Visit the library on Tuesday, Nov. 27, from 4 to 5 p.m., for a **Holiday Gift Craft session**. This craft is recommended for children between the ages of 6 and 10. On Thursday, Dec. 6, the library is hosting a Holiday Storytime and Craft for ages 2 to 5 from 1 to 2 p.m., and for ages 6 to 10 from 4 to 5 p.m. Create a craft and take in a puppet show. Refreshments will be available. Prior registration is recommended for all events. Call 589-4600 or visit www.nashualibrary.org.

The Pine Hill Waldorf School (77 Pine Hill Drive, Wilton) will be a winter wonderland just for kids on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The **36th annual holiday fair** at the school will feature puppet shows, circus performances, craft making activities and tasty holiday food. Meet the Pocket Lady who will have many pockets filled with gifts and even make your own jump rope using a special machine. Admission is free. Call 654-6003 or visit www.pinehill.org. ▶ 32



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◀30 Meet with Santa and get a history lesson. Visit the Millyard Museum (200 Bedford St., Manchester) on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a holiday open house. In addition to sales in the gift shop, learn from historical reenactors, enjoy cookies and cider and listen to some holiday tunes. Admission is free. Call 622-7531.

Take a journey to the North Pole aboard **The Polar Express**. All four New Hampshire Barnes & Noble locations will host a *Polar Express* Storytime on Friday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. Visit stores in Manchester (1741 S. Willow St., 668-5557), Nashua (235 DW Highway, 888-0533), Salem (125 S. Broadway, 898-1930) and Newington (45 Gosling Road, 422-7733) to hear the tale of this magical Christmas Eve train ride. Additional activities are planned at each location. Admission is free. Visit www.barnesandnoble.com.

Santa will visit the Seacoast on Saturday, Dec. 8, at the Greenland Community Congregational Church's Christmas Fair. The fair will be at the Parish House (44 Post Road, Greenland) from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come for a visit from Santa and kids' activities, including a cookie walk. Lunch will feature sandwiches and indulgences for those with a sweet tooth including ice cream sundaes and fried dough. Call 436-8336 or visit www.communitychurchofgreenland.org.

Santa eats more than just milk and cookies. Have **breakfast with the jolly old elf** on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Chester Municipal Building (84 Chester St., Chester). Hosted by the Friends of the Library, enjoy games, stories, raffles and crafts in addition to breakfast and a photo with Santa. Tickets prior to Dec. 1 are \$5 per person with a \$20 maximum per family. After Dec. 1, admission is \$6 per person with a \$25 per family maximum. Call 887-3404 or visit www.chesterlibrary.com.

Homemade holidays

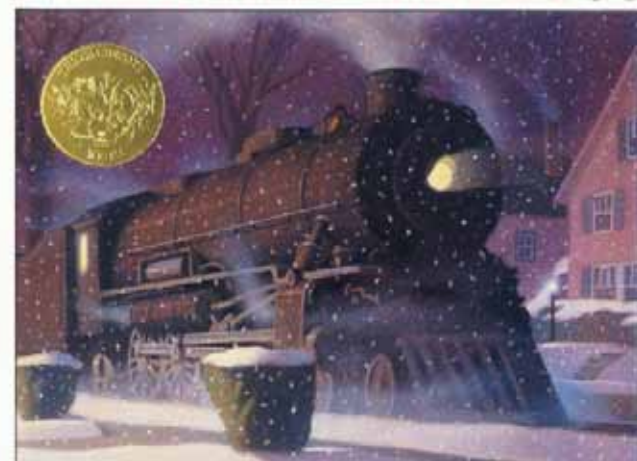
Avoid the long lines and DIY

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

Why fight the mall traffic and long register lines? Plenty of locations are offering holiday workshops to celebrate the hands-on spirit of the season. Check out some of these events to make your holiday a little more homemade.

• Many of these workshops are all about making handmade gifts. But what's a gift without a card? Visit Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson) on Tuesday, Nov. 27, at 6:30 p.m., and learn dif-

THE POLAR EXPRESS



The Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) is also hosting a **Polar Express** reading. Visit the Winchell Room on Monday, Dec. 10, from 10 to 11 a.m., to hear the story, play games, make crafts and listen to music all about the classic tale. For ages 2 to 5. Registration is required. Call 624-6550, ext. 328, or visit www.manchester.lib.nh.us.

Christmas is widely celebrated in the US, but many other winter holidays are celebrated in other parts of the world. The Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) is hosting **Holidays Around the World** on Tuesday, Dec. 11, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Visit the children's room to learn about December and January traditions in other cultures. Crafts and food will accompany the event. Admission is free and registration is not required. Call 624-6550, ext. 335, or visit www.manchester.lib.nh.us.

If you can't make it to midnight, the Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover) will offer three separate early **New Year's Eve countdowns**. The annual event will feature "countdowns" at 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m., on Monday, Dec. 31. The museum will have its own ball drop and a New Year's toast with ginger ale. Kids will have an opportunity to decorate a party hat and share their wishes for the new year. Call 742-2002 or visit www.childrens-museum.org.

ferent styles of **card making**. Registration is required. Call 886-6030 or visit www.rodgerslibrary.org.

• The Meredith Public Library (91 Main St., Meredith) is hosting an **Old Fashioned Herbal Christmas**. On Tuesday, Nov. 27, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., join Melissa Morrison, a clinical master herbalists from Dragonfly Botanicals in Sanbornton as she leads a workshop on creating herbal gifts for the holidays. Spa items, holiday treats and even a gift to hang outside for the birds will be available to make. Call 279-4303 or visit www.meredithlibrary.org.

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◀ 32 • Sure, you could head to a store and buy a holiday wreath off the shelf, but on Wednesday, Nov. 28, from 9 to 11 a.m., Beaver Brook Association (117 Ridge Road, Hollis) is hosting a **Greensgathering Hike and Holiday Wreathmaking** event. Explore the woods on an easy hike and collect greens and berries along the trail. Once your collection is complete, head to the Brown Lane Barn where tea and muffins will be waiting as you make a wreath out of the materials from the hike. Admission is \$25. Call 565-7787 or visit www.beaverbrook.org.

• Woodworker and blogger Stephen Carey (www.mygrandfatherslathe.blogspot.com) will show you simple ways to create your own gifts for the holidays. Visit the Hooksett Public Library (31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett) on Thursday, Nov. 29, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. for Carey's presentation on **holiday woodworking** projects. Admission is free. Call 485-6092.

• Get the family together for a **wreath-making** experience. Visit Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester) on Friday, Nov. 30, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to noon. Families will be given materials entirely from nature to create their own handmade holiday decorations. Enrollment is \$15 per wreath and prior registration with payment is required. Call 626-3474 or visit www.amoskeagfishways.org.

Lights and merriment

Events to brighten things up for the season

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

The holidays can get monotonous year in and year out, but these events will provide a nice change of pace. Don a fez, watch a river lit up with fire, and listen to holiday stories just for adults to add a little spice to the season.

• The fourth annual **Southern New Hampshire Festival of Trees** returns to Pelham at Sherburne Hall in the town's Municipal Building (6 Village Green, Pelham). The festival begins on Friday, Nov. 23, from 6 to 8 p.m., with a performance by The Legionaires. On Saturday, Nov. 24, from 1 to 8 p.m., the day's events will include a puppet show, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus and a performance by the Nashua Flute Choir. The Clauses return from 2 to 4 p.m., on Sunday, Nov. 25. Check out a performance of *The Nutcracker* at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 26. On Tuesday, Nov. 27, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., take in a performance from the English Handbell Choir and on Wednesday, Nov. 28, from 5 to 9 p.m., take part in a raffle from the Pelham food pantry. On Thursday, Nov. 29, from 7 to 8 p.m., listen to the St. Patrick's Church Choir and on Friday, Nov. 30, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., check out the Windham Swing Band. On Saturday, Dec. 1, the Pelham High School Band performs from 1 to 3 p.m., and Max the Manches-

amoskeagfishways.org.

• At the Nashua Public Library's **Holiday Craft Workshop**, visitors won't be making the crafts, but they'll be leaving with instructions on how to make them at home. On Monday, Dec. 3, visit the library (2 Court St., Nashua) from 7 to 9 p.m., and learn from a panel of crafters how to make easy gifts and decorations. Call 589-4610 or visit www.nashualibrary.org.

• Get some **holiday decorating ideas** at Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) from the pros. Nancy Goubout and Aimee Lindh, owners of Jacques Flower Shop, will visit the Winchell Room on Tuesday, Dec. 4, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., to demonstrate wreath making, roping and boxwood tree decorating. At the end of the event, the creations will be raffled off to audience members. Seating is limited to 50 people. Register by calling 624-6550, ext. 311, or visit www.manchester.lib.nh.us.

• Or you can create your own ornaments with a class on making **Glass Candy Canes and Icicles** at the Sharon Arts Center School of Art & Craft (457 Route 123, Sharon). On Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., visit the school to learn how to make these shapes and add color to your glass creations. Tuition is \$66 with a lab and materials fee of \$30. Call 924-7256 or visit www.sharonarts.org.

ter Monarchs mascot will be on hand from 2 to 4 p.m., and a \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded.

• Get ready for the holiday season with a **Holiday Extravaganza**. Visit the Weare Town Hall (15 Flanders Memorial Road, Weare) on Saturday, Nov. 24, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., for a day packed with activities. Visit the hot chocolate and pastry bar and browse through tables of holiday shopping from local vendors. Kids can check out the free ornament-making table to bring home a holiday souvenir. Call 529-7211, ext. 10, email wearechambernh@gmail.com or visit www.wearechamber.org.

• Explore the historic Red House at the First Unitarian Congregational Society in Wilton (598 Isaac Frye Highway, Wilton) during the **Christmas Fair**, Saturday, Nov. 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Have lunch and check out displays of holiday decorations, crafts and baked goods. Try your luck at taking home a quilt by entering the quilt raffle. Visit www.uuwilton.org.

• The 12th annual **"Fez"tival of Trees** returns to the Bektash Shrine (189 Pembroke Road, Concord) through Sunday, Nov. 25. The "Fez"tival will feature more than 100 fully decorated artificial trees from area businesses and organizations. Each tree will have its own theme, and visitors can enter a raffle to receive a tree at the end of the "Fez"tival. Accompanying the event will be visits from Santa, a ▶ 36

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The Goffstown Village will be covered in holiday decorations for Friday Night Under the Lights. Courtesy photo.

◀34 craft and gift shop and a silent auction. The Shrine will be open from 1 to 7 p.m. but will be closed for Thanksgiving. Visit www.bektashshriners.org.

- Make your way to Dover City Hall (288 Central Ave., Dover), Friday, Nov. 30, from 5 to 8 p.m., for the **Festival of Trees**. Each year local businesses decorate trees, which are displayed throughout the City Hall Auditorium, creating a festive winter scene. At the end of the night, the trees are auctioned off to be taken home. Call 742-2218 or visit www.dovernh.org/festival-of-trees.

- Head to Wilton for a two-day holiday experience. The Pine Hill Waldorf School (77 Pine Hill Drive, Wilton) is hosting its 36th annual **holiday fair** on Friday, Nov. 30, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Friday, the event will be geared toward adults, with shopping, a dessert café and live music. A spa will be set up for massages and makeovers. Return on Saturday and bring the kids for crafts, puppet shows and a circus performance. Admission is free. Call 654-6003 or visit www.pinehill.org.

- The businesses, artisans and craft makers of Hopkinton and Contoocook will once again come together for **A Starry, Starry Weekend** on Friday, Nov. 30, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Hopkinton tree lighting is Saturday at 4 p.m., and the Contoocook tree will be lit at 5 p.m. Finish all your holiday shopping at various locations throughout town. Visit www.starrystarryweekend.blogspot.com.

- **Friday Night Under the Lights** returns to the Goffstown Village for a full evening of holiday celebrations. On Friday, Nov. 30, from 5 to 8 p.m., head to the village for two presentations of *The Polar Express* at the Goffstown Public Library (2 High St., Goffstown) complete with a conductor to demonstrate the story. Outside in the village, Santa will be taking photos with children, hayrides will run from 6 to 8 p.m., and the Congregational Church of Goffstown (8 Main St., Goffstown) will

have a live nativity event. New this year is River Fire, which will have the Piscataquog ablaze with a display of flames. Visit goffstownmainstreet.org.

- St. Joseph Hospital (172 Kinsley St., Nashua) will be hardly recognizable during its annual **Deck the Halls** event. The atrium lobby will be fully decorated on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 4 to 6 p.m., and will be open for visitors. Steve Blunt and Marty Kelly will provide the backdrop with live music. There will also be dance performances, kids activities, and pictures with Santa from a professional photographer. Call 595-3168 or visit www.stjosephhospital.com.

- Green and red are the certainly the colors of the season, but this fair focuses on the green. Visit the **Greens Fair** at the Unitarian Universalist Church (274 Pleasant St., Concord), Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., for handmade holiday decorations, baked goods and a lunch café. Visit www.concorduu.org.

- Visit New Hampshire's only town completely comprised of islands on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The **New Castle Village Christmas Fair** will be at the New Castle Recreation Building and will feature natural decorations, jewelry and the New Castle Cookbook. While you're on the seacoast, bite into a lobster roll or fish chowder, which will both be served during the fair's lunch. Call 436-1776.

- Go back to basics with some vintage flavor for your holidays. Visit the New Hampshire Antique Co-op (323 Elm St., Milford), on Saturday, Dec. 1, and Sun., Dec. 2, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., for a **Holiday Open House**. The co-op will be fully decorated for the holidays, and visitors can sample some punch and cookies. A letter-writing station will be set up so kids can send their holiday wishes to Santa, and a mini North Pole scene designed by antique dealer Beverly Weir-Longacre will be on display. Admission is free. Call 673-8499 or visit www.nhantiquecoop.com.

- Because the holidays can be just as stressful as they are fun, Nia NH and Yoga (110 Route 101A, Amherst) is host- ▶ 38

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◀36 ing a **Pre-Holiday Nurturing and Psychic Event** for women. On Saturday, Dec. 1, from noon to 5 p.m., visit the Amherst location for classes in Nia and yoga, meditation and spa services. There will also be psychic readings, jewelry and raffles. All proceeds from the event will benefit Jayme's Fund, supporting human rights for children. Admission is \$3. Call 562-7525 or visit www.nianhandyoga.com/womensevent.

• The whole family will have something to do at the Longmeadow Congregational Church **Snowflake Fair** (4 Wilson Crossing Road, Auburn). On Saturday, Dec. 1, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., visit the church for crafts, raffles and baked goods. While the adults are shopping, kids can visit their own shopping room where they can pick out gifts and have them wrapped. There will be snack bar, pictures with Santa and auctions. Call 483-2907 or visit www.longmeadowucc.org.

• Crafts, baked goods and live music will highlight the **Christmas in the Village Fair** at the Chester Congregational & Baptist Church (4 Chester St., Chester) on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. At the Stevens Memorial hall, enjoy a luncheon from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and a cookie walk that begins at 9 a.m. Call 887-4799, email chesterchurchoffice@gsinet.net or visit www.chesternhchurch.org.

• Storytime at the library typically means kids only. But adults can visit the Amherst Town Library (14 Main St., Amherst), on Sunday, Dec. 2, from 4 to 5 p.m., for a **holiday program with Master Storyteller Simon Brooks**. Holiday-themed tales from around the world will be told in a style more suited for adults. This is a free event, but registration is required. Call 673-2288, email library@amherst.lib.nh.us or visit www.amherst.lib.nh.us.

• The town of Warner is well-known for its fall festivities, but don't think for a second that this town in the shadow of Mount Kearsarge takes the winter off. The holiday fun begins on Friday, Dec. 7, from 6-8 p.m. with the **Festival of Trees Preview Party**. This adults-only event will provide a sneak preview of the trees before they are on display at the festival of trees. Enjoy refreshments and door prizes. Tickets are \$10 and are available at Sugar River Bank (2 W. Main St., Warner) and in the selectmen's office (5 E. Main St., Warner). Then, explore local businesses during the **Warner Holiday Shopping Tour**. On Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., downtown businesses will be open for special holiday shopping. Finally, the Festival of Trees will show off decorated trees at town hall from Saturday, Dec. 8 through Wednesday, Dec. 26. Visit www.kearsargechamber.org.

• Greenland will be celebrating the holidays with a **Christmas Fair** on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Greenland Parish House (44 Post Road, Greenland). Check out a cookie walk, handmade items, a visit from Santa and some sweet treats. A silent auction will feature a

variety of items including artwork and gift certificate to restaurants. Call 436-8336 or visit www.communitychurchofgreenland.org.

• The 14th annual **Wolfeboro Festival of Trees** returns to the Wright Museum (77 Center St., Wolfeboro) on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 9, from noon to 3 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 16, from noon to 3 p.m. More than 65 trees have been decorated by local businesses to be displayed. Entertainment and refreshments will be available. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 8 and under. The family admission price is \$12. Call 515-1088 or visit www.wolfeborofestivaloftrees.com.

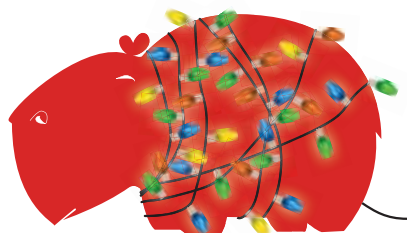
• The Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road, Canterbury) is once again hosting **Christmas at Canterbury**. Visit the village on Saturday, Dec. 8, and Saturday, Dec. 15, for a candlelit stroll, a wagon ride and the Gingerbread Spectacular, a gingerbread house competition with a \$200 prize. Admission is \$17 for adults, \$8 for ages 6 to 17 and free for ages 5 and younger. Call 783-9511 or visit www.shakers.org.

• Celebrate the holiday season with this annual tradition in Candia. **Lights on the Hill** will light up the town's 19th-century buildings on Saturday, Dec. 8, and Sunday, Dec. 9, from 4 to 8 p.m. Toast a marshmallow in a campfire and visit live nativity animals. Check out live music and dancing performances and warm up in the coffeehouse. Admission is free. Call 483-0506 or visit www.candiacongregational.org.

• Check out the cutting edge of holiday decorating. The Palace Theatre is hosting its first **Holiday Home Tour**. On Sunday, Dec. 9, at 3 p.m., meet at Ira Lexus of Manchester (18 Kilton Road, Bedford), and then head out to visit four homes throughout Bedford that show off the latest styles of holiday décor. Once the tour is done, head to the Bedford Village Inn (2 Older Bedford Way, Bedford), for cocktails and appetizer from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 on the day of the tour. Visit www.palacetheatre.org.

• The Middle Street Baptist Church (18 Court St., Portsmouth) is hosting a **live nativity event** on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 3:30, 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Call 436-2337 or visit www.middlestreetbaptist.org.

• Bring an oil lantern to Bedford Presbyterian Church (4 Church Road, Bedford) on Sunday, Dec. 16, from 4 to 7 p.m., for the **Peace Light from Bethlehem**. Email pack114den7@gmail.com.



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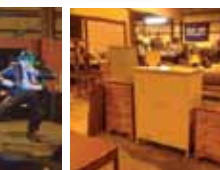
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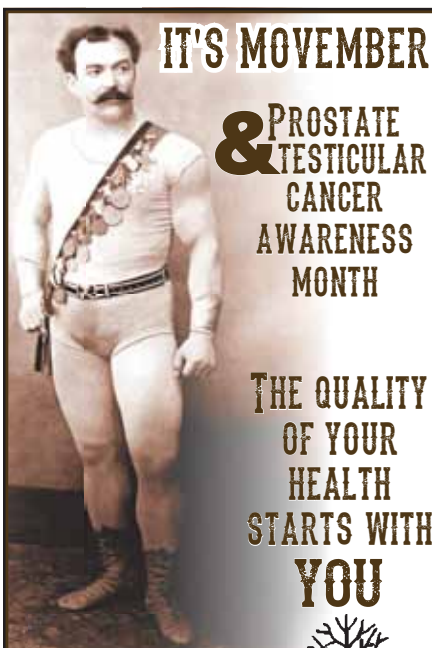
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FOOD

◀ 39 old neighborhood.

"This building has been a neighborhood market for generations. When I noticed it was vacant, I decided to see about starting it up again," Statitres said.

For the last four years she has been living in Massachusetts, cooking food and waiting tables at Stats Bar and Grille in South Boston, which is owned by her brothers. Exposure to the food industry at the Puritan and Stats is all the culinary training she needed, she said, especially when working with family recipes.

"You don't need the formal training. It's almost better, in a way, when you're cooking this style of food," she said. "We have a breakfast and lunch menu, but our focus is on dinners, meals that can be reheated and served. It's less of a sit-down place and more somewhere to get easy, good food, an alternative to takeout."

Takeout meals are listed on a chalkboard above the front counter; they rotate daily, and each week a new menu is drawn up. Using her mother's and grandparents' tried-and-true recipes, she offers fully prepared dinners of stuffed peppers over rice, Cajun salmon, Thanksgiving meals and baked ziti, portioned for up to eight people. Each starts around \$10.95 and is packaged in microwavable or oven-safe containers.

"It's hassle-free. People don't have a lot of time to cook these days, so it's a good way to get a full meal without having to get fast food. We always take suggestions from people, too," Statitres said.

The Kitchen takes orders daily before 2 p.m. for pickup after 5 p.m. In addition, homemade side dishes like macaroni, chicken and pasta salads, meatballs, and

FOOD

Hearty loaves, fresh baked

Bread Peddler turns craving into business

By Luke Steere

lsteere@hippopress.com

An urbanite most of his life, Robert Chertoff was suffering from fresh-baked rye bread withdrawal.

After relocating to Sanbornton from New York in 2000, the former TV video editor started baking his own bread to satisfy his hunger. But it wasn't until recently that Chertoff founded The Bread Peddler, a growing business with a straightforward name that echoes his philosophy.

"I've always enjoyed making it, baking for family and friends. They enjoy it, and I'd gotten suggestions to do something with it. I was too flattered not to take them seriously," he said.

Like his work with TV and webinar video editing, Chertoff said he started out by

spreads like feta and sun-dried tomato and eggplant tapenade hummus can be ordered to complement dinner.

Each day before 7 a.m., fresh baked scones, bagels and muffins come out of the oven for quick carry-out breakfasts. Breakfast sandwiches are available too, as are pies, cakes, cookies and cookie sandwiches. Statitres said soups, chowders and chilis go well with their lunch menu of simple, finger foods: deli sandwiches, like BLT and turkey pesto; paninis, like California-style or Mediterranean chicken; and salads, like cobb or caprese.

The Kitchen has a pantry too, with shelved grocery products like pastas and sauces, cheese from Sugarbush Farms, Stacy's Pita Chips and Shipyard Beer, but the idea is to make as much as they can in house, Statitres said.

"Most of everything that goes out of here is homemade. Even the potato chips are, and a lot of Greek foods like our egg lemon soup, butter twists and spanakopita," she said.

This down-home return has been a welcome one; Statitres said the number of dinner orders has kept her busy over the last three months, and as the holidays near, she expects the catering operation to take off even more. The catering menu is chock full of classics like chicken piccata, lasagna, and scallops wrapped in bacon, but also includes specialty items to liven a party even more, like grape leaves, swordfish kabobs and tenderloin bruschettas. 🍷

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Robert Chertoff, the Bread Peddler. Courtesy photo.

getting creative with recipes rather than raw footage. Because his baking began as a hobby, he said he is not a perfectionist, but someone who adjusts until it "looks good and tastes good."

"And the feedback is much more immediate. This is a product people are 44 ▶

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FOOD

◀42 taking, trying and coming back and saying what they feel," he said.

Working from his Jewish caraway rye bread recipe, reminiscent of what he grew up with in New York, he started a multi-grain product line that includes seeded sourdough, pumpernickel and peasant breads. His baking employs an artisan style that makes for hearty loaves. "They're heavy, but they don't sit heavy. I sell them as solid loaves and they can last a while because they're not pre-sliced," Chertoff said.

Selling primarily at farmers markets, he hears from customers about how they serve his products: alone, buttered, alongside soups and as parts of sandwiches.

"All the breads make wonderful toast; it's a very tasty, flavorful way to enjoy them in a basic way. People have sat down and [eaten] a half loaf of the sourdough, or used peasant bread to make french toast. I hadn't intended it to be that way, but everyone gravitates toward different tastes," Chertoff said.

Some varieties are spin-offs of his rye dough; pumpernickel is mixed with the rye, molasses and cocoa, and his peasant bread is made from a combination of rye and whole-wheat flour and has a rustic, less refined look. The sourdough he bakes contains sunflower seeds, sesame seeds and flax seed meal.

The Bread Peddler products use no preservatives and stick to natural, quality ingredients. Chertoff also tries to source

locally, using King Arthur flour whenever he can when baking in his home kitchen. The size of his operation has him a little tied down in terms of expansion. Along with working on packaging for his displays, his days now are spent doing a lot of baking, but he is getting into some winter markets for the season and looking to get into even more markets come warmer weather.

"I am not sure where [the business] will go, but I've found what I enjoy doing. Talking with people and seeing what they're interested in feels a lot more personal. I am pleased when people come back because I am creating something people are eating. Clearly, no pun intended, they have a gut reaction to what I give them," he said.

Chertoff said that starting The Bread Peddler was a natural gravitation to something he's always enjoyed, and it's ringing true for some of his customers too.

"I think in many ways people tend to do things that they know or they grow up with, and this is something I grew up with and couldn't find in New Hampshire," he said. "I think that registers a lot with newcomers and out-of-state visitors."

The Bread Peddler

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528-6864, breadpeddler@pipeline.com
www.thebreadpeddler.com
Find products at the Salem winter farmers market, Laconia indoor farmers market and Tilton winter farmers market.

Food Listings

Thanksgiving dinners

- **ALAN'S** of Boscawen (Route 3, N. Main St., Boscawen, 753-6631, www.alansofboscawen.com) buffet and plated meals. Noon to 6 p.m., senior discounts, children half price; large parties welcome, call for reservations.
- **ALPINE GROVE** (19 Depot St., Hollis, 882-9051) traditional buffet. Seatings at noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. \$19.99 adults, \$9.99 kids 12 and younger, kids under 5 free. Reservations are required.
- **BVI THANKSGIVING** Four-course meal at Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, 472-2001, www.bedfordvillageinn.com) with gourmet takes on traditional fare. Dinner is \$59 per plate. Reservations required.
- **BELMONT HALL & RESTAURANT** (718 Grove St., Manchester, 625-8540 www.belmonthall.net) Plated traditional meal with seatings 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. \$12.99.
- **CHEZ VACHON** (136 Kelley St., Manchester, 625-9660, chezvachon.com) traditional plated dinner, two seatings, \$11.99. Reservations required.
- **DRUMLIN'S** Restaurant at Stonebridge Country Club (161 Gorham Pond Road, Goffstown, 497-8633, www.golfs-tonebridgecc.com) traditional Thanksgiving buffet. 11 a.m.-2 p.m., \$21.99; \$16.99 seniors; \$9.99 children.
- **COLBY HILL INN** (3 The Oaks, Henniker, 428-3281, colbyhillinn.com) three courses with fine dining and traditional NE Thanksgiving fare. Seatings 12:30-5:30 p.m., \$45, \$19.99 for children under 12. Reservations required.
- **COMMON MAN BUFFET** (25 Water St., Concord, 228-3463, thecman.com) 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Traditional fare, \$23.95.
- **THE COUNTRY SPIRIT** (68 Maple St., Henniker, 428-7007, countryspiritthenniker.com) serving special a la carte menu from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Seafood and traditional. Reservations highly recommended.
- **THE DERRYFIELD** (625 Mammoth Road, Manchester, 623-2880, thederryfield.com) 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., family-style meals \$22.95 per person; plated \$19.95. Reservations are required.
- **EPOCH** Buffet at Epoch at the Exeter Inn (90 Front St. Exeter, 772-5901) noon to 5 p.m. Turkey, slow roasted roast beef and other traditional fixings. \$39.95;
- town, 497-8633, www.golfs-tonebridgecc.com) traditional Thanksgiving buffet. 11 a.m.-2 p.m., \$21.99; \$16.99 seniors; \$9.99 children.
- **EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH** (14 Mammoth Road, Hooksett) Thursday, Nov. 22, 1 p.m. Sit-down traditional turkey dinner with fixings. Limited seating, reserve at 668-6473 or emmanuelhooksett@gmail.com. See www.emmanuelbaptist-church.com.
- **FRATELLOS** Amoskeag Ballroom (155 Dow St., Manchester, 641-6776, fratellos.com) Buffet carving station \$24.95 for adults, \$12.95 children 6 to 12; free for children younger than 5. Seatings from noon and 3 p.m.; reservations are required.
- **GRANITE RESTAURANT** and Bar at the Centennial Hotel (96 Pleasant St., Concord, 227-9000, ext. 602, thecentennialhotel.com) buffet. \$29.95; \$26.95 seniors, \$16.95 for children under age 12, 4 and younger eat free. Seatings at noon and 2 p.m., reservations required.
- **GREENWOOD'S** Shaker Thanksgiving buffet at Greenwood's (Canterbury Shaker Village, 788 Shaker Road, Canterbury, 783-4238, shakers.org) 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$25 adults, \$17.50 for children under 12.
- **HANOVER STREET CHOP-HOUSE** (149 Hanover 46 ▶

Beer geeks brew old-style

Earth Eagle trying to fill niche with 'off-the-wall' brews

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

Alex McDonald and Butch Heilshorn are cutting hops down to size.

Hops is but an herb, they say, one of thousands that can be used to make gruit, a medieval herbal blend used to bitter and flavor beer. At their new nano-brewery, Earth Eagle Brewings, the two are trying to bring pre-Reformation ideas into the New Hampshire beer-lover's consciousness. Their tasting room opened on Nov. 17 and is the exclusive place to try their beers.

"This idea kind of grew out of a couple of different things. My wife is a massage therapist who studied herbs, and Butch's is an herbalist, so we became interested in herbal medicines and also started learning about lacto-fermentation food techniques and said, as far as we're concerned, we can also do this with beer," said McDonald, who co-owns A&G Homebrew Supply, next to the Earth Eagle tasting room.

"I was the lead guinea pig for [my wife's] extracts and whatnot, and I really think her involvement sensitized me into the whole interplay between man and the environment," said Heilshorn, a guidance counselor from Kittery, Maine, and self-professed beer geek.

Three years ago, when they decided to begin brewing together, they got even geekier, reading up on beer history and playing around with recipes. A&G opened a year and a half ago in downtown Portsmouth to fill a niche there, McDonald said, and has aroused homebrewing enthusiasm, so the market is "kind of built right in."

"With Earth Eagle, we're really just trying to create stuff we couldn't find locally and wouldn't find elsewhere. ... This will help, having small batches for people to try and say, 'Hey, I can brew this at home too,'" McDonald said.

When one of their earlier experiments, the William Wallace, a Scottish gruit featuring juniper berries and heather, won at a New England regional homebrew completion, they began to find their niche. Sticking with left-field brewing methods, they began getting into other arenas, like that of Puca, their curry pumpkin porter. McDonald took a recipe for curry pumpkin soup and tailored it to create a unique brew.

"The curry works well with a porter backbone that's chocolatey. It's a nice complement to the style," he said.

Puca and five other brews will be tapped for the opening. Exhilaration, which echoes the William Wallace, is a traditional gruit, with yarrow, sweet gale and wild rosemary; the New England Gangsta' is



Butch Heilshorn and Alex McDonald. Courtesy photo.

Earth Eagle Brewings

165 High St., Portsmouth
facebook.com/earthaglebrewings

Tasting room hours:

Thursdays and Fridays, 3 to 7 p.m.
Saturdays and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m.

a West Coast IPA dry-hopped with citra; Backyard Bouillabaisse is a locally herbed gruit; and Red Ryder American is a red ale with 30 percent rye malt and dry-hopped with Amarillo.

"Gruit is most commonly made from sweet gale, wild rosemary, yarrow, but it really had to do with where you lived. We're trying things from around here, like yarrow and spruce tips, but we also are mixing in ingredients from Africa and South America," Heilshorn said.

Their beer, for a country that is, for lack of a better term, hops-mad, will taste different, he said, but is still inherently ale. Still, Heilshorn said, "We're into going crazy on the palate, getting into new, old and really old territory, using beer as the vehicle."

For now, those six are only available for tasting in Portsmouth, in 1- and 2-liter glass growlers. They have a one-barrel system that brews 31 gallons at a time, but they can split it into two batches if need be, which is beneficial, as they have more than 30 recipes to utilize, according to McDonald.

"Few companies do really off-the-wall brews," Heilshorn said. "We want to create a situation that has people coming back to our tasting room every other week to try beers they're never going to find anywhere else. It's kind of like a concept of a restaurant without a menu; you go in and eat what they give you because it's going to be good, interesting, thought-provoking and inspiring, which may be a little brash to say right out of the gate, but I think of ourselves, and it seems people are starved for new beers and alcohols." 🍷

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FOOD

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 38

vors," Master Chocolatier Jack Michael Piscoiotta has added to the company's line of fine chocolates and candies with seasonal and exotic caramel flavors coated in signature chocolate. Sixteen-piece assortment packs include vanilla bean, pumpkin, raspberry, anise, sea salt and molasses, available online at www.vanotischocolates.com or in the store. Special, limited-edition flavors like pumpkin caramel are being phased in and out throughout the holidays.

• **Shop therapy:** LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst, 672-9898) is holding a Black Friday Meltdown Party for those who've been out shopping all night. Rest your mall-weary feet in the Great Room on Friday, Nov. 23, from noon to 4 p.m. Enjoy wines, cocktails and food. Visit www.labellewinerynh.com.

• **Mr. Mac's Macaroni and Cheese at 2:** On Wednesday, Nov. 14, Mr. Mac's Macaroni and Cheese Restaurant (497 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 606-1760) celebrated two years in businesses and more than 300,000 mac and cheese

entrees served. With more than 20 variations on the classic comfort food, Mac's has a foodie following all over New England. The restaurant also has been an active supporter of the community, selecting monthly local charities or national relief efforts to make donations to. Visit www.mr-macs.com.

• **IncrediBrew traditional Thanksgiving special:** To give thanks to its loyal customers, IncrediBrew is offering its biggest discount of the year for beer- and wine-making. On Friday, Nov. 23, and Saturday, Nov. 24, brewers who make one batch of beer will get a second batch of equal or lesser value half off. Winemakers can take \$30 off any six-week wine they choose to make and a \$20 discount for any four-week wine. Plus, special gifts with each batch made. Reserve your brew or winemaking time — first come, first served — and enjoy. Beermaking times are 9 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 7 p.m. on Friday, and winemaking times are on the hour both days.

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◀ 44 St., Manchester, 644-2467, hanoverstreetchophouse.com) Thanksgiving Menu with specials, noon to 5 p.m.

• **HART'S TURKEY HARM** (233 DW Highway, Meredith, 279-6212, hartsturkeyfarm.com) offering it's menu from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Traditional fare and more. Reservations for seatings at 10:30 and 10:45 a.m., open seating rest of day.

• **HOMESTEAD** (641 DW Highway, Merrimack, 429-2022, homesteadnh.com) features a short, hearty menu. Reserve for seatings at noon, 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

• **THE INN AT EAST HILL FARM** noon and 12:30 p.m. (460 Monadnock St., Troy, 242-6495, www.east-hill-farm.com). BYOB. Reservations required at 242-6495. Cost is \$22.95 (\$12.95 for ages 4-17, \$7.50 for children younger than 4).

• **MEMPHIS BBQ & BLUES** Restaurant (70 Elm St., Milford, 672-3870, www.memphisbbqblues.com) is slow-smoking turkey with homemade NE style dry rub and traditional fixings. Assorted pies. \$ 21.95, \$14.95 under 12. Seatings at noon, 2, 4, and 6 p.m. Call for reservations.

• **MOUNTAIN VIEW GRAND RESORT** Grand Thanksgiving Celebration at Mountain View Grand Resort and Spa (101 Mount View Road, Whitefield, 837-2100, www.mountainview-grand.com) has events on-going throughout November, but

BLACK FRIDAY REFUEL



Make your lists, check them twice, then join the Black Friday crush. Next, stop in at the Tilt'n Diner (61 Laco-nia Road, Tilton, 286-2204) Midnight Shoppers' Buffet from Thursday, Nov. 22, at midnight until Friday, Nov. 23, at 10 a.m. For \$9.99, fall upon a spread of breakfast food for some moonlight madness dining. Visit www.thecman.com.

Thanksgiving Day's Grand buffet in the Crystal Ballroom is the highlight. Buffet is \$48 for adults, \$15 children 6-12. Reservations are required. Schedule of fall events online.

• **THE RED BLAZER** (72 Manchester St., Concord, 224-4101, theredblazer.com) Buffet style. First seating 11 a.m., last at 3:30 p.m., \$19.99; \$12.99 children; free under three. Reservations recommended.

• **SPEAKER'S CORNER** Restaurant (Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2 Somerset Parkway Nashua, 886-1200, cpnashua.com) gourmet buffet. \$27.95, \$22.95 seniors, \$12.95 for children five to ten, under four eat free. Reservations are required.

• **STONEHURST MANOR** (3351 White Mountain Hwy., North Conway, 356-3113, www.stonehurstmanor.com) prix-fixe menu from 2 to 8 p.m. 47 ▶

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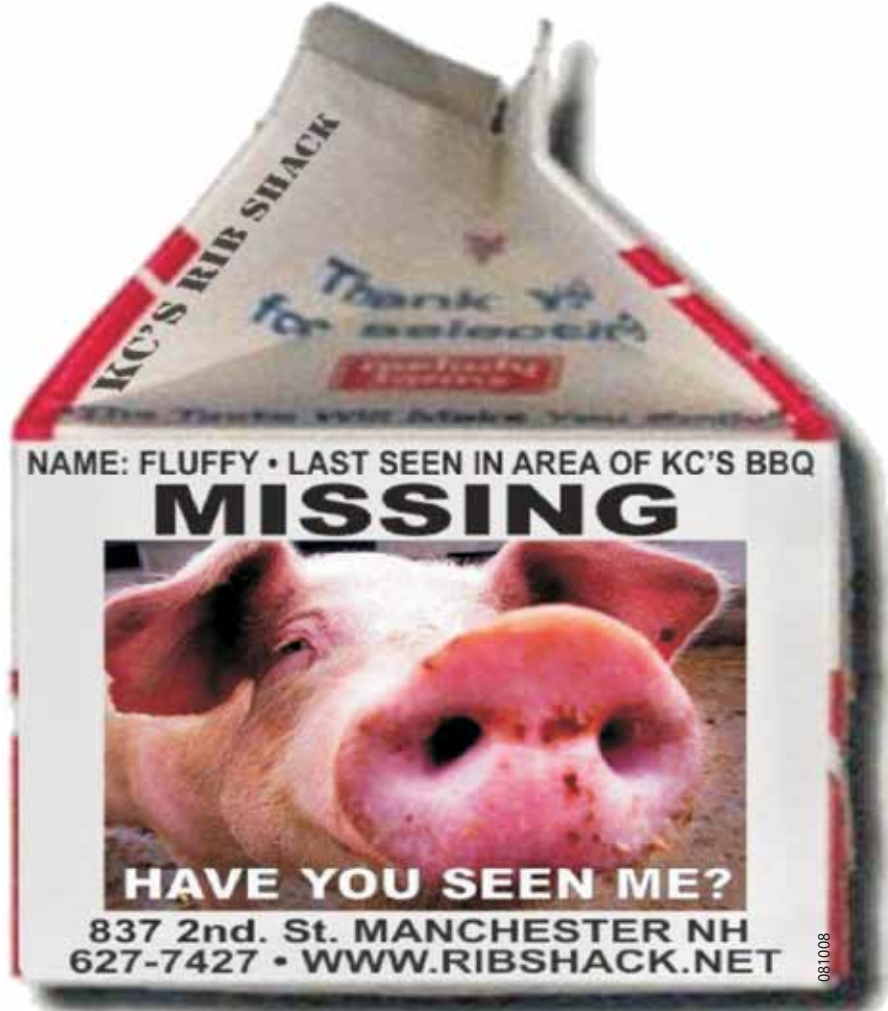
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• **WILD ROVER** Irish breakfast at the The Wild Rover Pub (21 Kosciuszko St., Manchester, 669-7772, wildroverpub.com) Annual event, 8 to 11 a.m. \$9.99, \$5.99 for children, under five free. Bar reopens at 5 p.m. until 1 a.m. Proceeds benefit the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

• **THE YARD** (1211 S. Mammoth Road, Manchester, 623-3545, theyardrestaurant.com) features both buffet for \$21.95, \$10.95 for kids under 10 and plated dinners for \$25.95. Reservations required. Seating one hour from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Seatings for parties of seven or more at 11 a.m. and noon, 2 and 4 p.m.

Food maps/tours

• **FOOD MAPS** The Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Hampshire (NOFA-NH) offers an online Farm & Food Map which lists our member Organic Farms and Organic Land Care professionals, which can be searched by location as well as by product type. It will list local restaurants that support the farm-to-restaurant connection, and other businesses supporting organic agriculture. Visit nofanh.org/foodmap. To list your farm and become a member, call the office 224-5022.

• **NH FOOD TOURS** Vistnh.gov, the state's tourism website, features several maps for food-related travel in the state including a Chocolate and Martini Tour, a brewery tour, Wine and Cheese Trails and maple syrup-related information.

Festivals/cook-offs/expos/parties/book events

• **COOKIES AND MILK WITH SANTA** The Kellerhaus (Route 3 between Meredith and Weirs Beach) is hosting Santa, serving cookies and milk and offering candy samples and personalized ornaments. Fri., Nov. 22, 2-4 p.m. Call 366-4466 or go to www.kellerhaus.com.

• **SHAVE THE DATE** Manch Vegas Mustache Bash at Milly's Tavern (500 N. Commercial St., Manchester, 625-4444). Live music, silent auction, best stache prizes. Benefits Team Dillon. Fri., Nov. 29, 7:30-11 p.m..

• **WORLD AFFAIRS LUNCHEON** Thurs., Nov. 29, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Southern New Hampshire University (2500 N. River Road, Manchester) with guest speaker Jenny White, professor at Boston University, speaking on "Muslim Nationalism and the New Turks." \$25, email council@wacnh.org for more.

• **12 BITES OF CHRISTMAS** Thurs., Dec. 13, 6-8 p.m. at Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord). Holiday-inspired

appetizers from the Celery Stick Café, live music and wine tasting. Tickets and pricing at 225-6840 or www.concordfoodcoop.coop.

• **NEW HORIZONS HOLIDAY BASH** Milly's Tavern (500 N. Commercial St., Manchester, 625-4444) benefit for New Horizons Shelter. Fri., Dec. 14, 7 p.m.

• **GINGERBREAD SPECTACULAR** Fifth annual event at Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road Canterbury) Saturdays, Dec. 8 & 15, from 3 to 8 p.m. Public viewing and judging. Enter by Sat., Nov. 24; house drop-off Sat., Dec. 1, to Mon., Dec. 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 783-9077, ext. 230, or visit www.shakers.org.

• **CURRIER AND IVES COOKIE TOUR** is a self-guided excursion through the Monadnock Region. Sat., Dec. 8, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., view Christmas décor and enjoy homemade treats and recipes from Woodbound Inn, The Monadnock Inn, The Inn at East Hill Farm, Inn of the Tartan Fox, The Fitzwilliam Historical Society, Swanzy Historical Museum, Common Collections and more. Tickets are \$10, available Nov. 26, email cookietour@yahoo.com.

• **HOLIDAY COOKIE SWAP** Share cookies and baking tips and meet new friends. Thurs., Dec. 20, 6-8 p.m. at Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord). Admission is a container with 24 cookies, copies of recipe encouraged. Tag station and light holiday refreshments.

Chef events/special meals

• **FARM FEAST BREAKFAST AND OPEN HOUSE** D Acres (218 Streeter Woods Road, Dorchester) is hosting a breakfast on the first Sunday of each month at 10 a.m. featuring organic eggs, sausage, potatoes, kale, maple syrup and pancakes made with Vermont-milled flour and free farm tours of the gardens, grounds, animals, alternative construction, renewable energy projects, and permaculture homestead. Price is \$5 to \$15 sliding scale donation. Call 786-2366 or visit www.dacres.org.

• **PAINTING ON CHOCOLATE** Discuss some tasty art with painter Cindy Rizza at Dancing Lion Chocolate (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043) on Fri., Nov. 30. Dancing Lion owner Richard Tango-Lowry will discuss his own muse, chocolate, as well.

• **VENTIQUATTRO GRAND OPENING** VentiQuattro Gourmet Diner (Stillings Hall, UNH, 20 Ballad St., Durham) opens Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 with a dinner from 5 to 9 p.m. This is the first ever pop-up restaurant by the 24 students of the UNH Department of Hospitality Management's Advanced Food and Beverage

Class. Chef Michael Rozzi of The Palm Restaurant in East Hampton, N.Y., will supervise the restaurant opening alongside Student Executive Chef, Nicholas Thimm. Drinks and hor d'oeuvres at 5 p.m., multi-course dinner at 6 p.m. \$60. Email Kat Woods at kat.wood828@gmail.com for details.

• **ALL-SPARKLING WINE AND FOOD** Thurs., Dec. 6, at 6:30 p.m. Six sparkling wines with paired with three tapas-sized apps, \$35. Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown). Reserve at 887-8463 or www.zorvino.com.

• **A CHRISTMAS CAROL DINNER** Holiday feast of past, present and yet to come at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., No. 325, Dover, 842-4077) \$115. Saturday, Dec. 8, at 6:30 p.m. Reservations and menu updates at stages-dining.com/events.

• **ZORVINO HOLIDAY PARTY** Jingle ball holiday party. Sat., Dec. 8, 6-11 p.m. at Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown). \$50. Wine tasting, dinner and dancing. Make reservations at 887-8463 or www.zorvino.com.

• **COMEDY NIGHT BEER DINNERS** Wednesdays at Holy Grail Pub (64 Main St., Epping, 679-9559) with live entertainment, food, cold beer. \$34 per person. See www.holygrailrestaurantandpub.com.

• **FROM OUR TAVOLA TO YOURS** is held on the first Monday of every month at Lucia's Tavola, 181 Route 13, Brookline, 429-9134, luciastavola.com. The event begins at 5 p.m. with a wine and cocktail tasting reception. At 6 p.m., Chef Mark DiCicco will prepare a four-course meal in front of the diners. Dinner costs \$35 and reservations are recommended.

• **LEBANESE DINNER** Washington St. Catering, 88 Washington St., Concord, 228-2000, www.washingtonst.catering.com, is serving up a five-course Lebanese dinner every Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. The menu features tapas-style appetizers of hummus, pita chips, marinated almonds, garlicky cheese, olives, a choice of soup (typically chicken lemon or lentil Swiss chard) and tabbouleh or fetoosh. Four entrees — lamb, beef, chicken and vegetarian, all served with a starch and roasted vegetables — are offered each Friday. Guests are served espresso, baklava and fruit for dessert. The dinner costs \$23.95 per person and reservations are recommended. Guests may bring their own wine at no additional charge.

• **MOTHER DAUGHTER TEA** Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford) annual winter event for mothers and daughters, special menus with teas. \$34 adults, \$29 children ages 4-10. Sun., Dec. 9. Reservations 472-2001, menus and times TBA at www.bedfordvillageinn.com.

• **MOTHER DAUGHTER TEA** Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford) annual winter event for mothers and daughters,

FOOD FROM THE PANTRY

Rice

Every year for Thanksgiving my family and I have something of a multicultural feast. Everything from the traditional turkey and stuffing to lasagna and sushi are on the table. So when it's time to deal with the leftovers, there's a lot to work with. One of my favorite dishes to transform is rice. Because of its versatility, rice beautifully transforms to take on new flavors.

One of the simplest dishes that punches up basic white rice is Spanish rice. I'd recommend making this recipe with uncooked rice, but with a few simple modifications and it can be whipped together with cooked rice. Rice has been a source of food for people as early as 2500 B.C. According to a Duke University website, rice production began in China and spread west to Sri Lanka, India and eventually Greece by the armies of Alexander the Great.

It is unclear how rice arrived in the United States. One popular story claims a damaged ship docked in the Carolinas and in return for repairs, the ship captain offered the people of the colony a bag of rice. It is also thought slaves from Africa brought rice to the colonies. In 1700, 300 tons of rice was shipped from America to England. After the Civil War ended, rice was produced in the South, and is now primarily produced in Louisiana, California, Mississippi and Arkansas. It is estimated that an average American consumes nearly 25 pounds of rice every year.

Rice is the most important crop in the world in nutritional value. While Americans consume a couple dozen pounds every year, rice provides 35 percent to 80 percent of the total caloric intake for the 3.3 billion people living in Asia; however, it does not provide enough nutrition to be a main source of food. Rice is an ideal pantry ingredient — it can be stored indefinitely if kept in a cool, dry area.

Spanish rice is a great side dish for a variety of foods, particularly tacos or enchiladas, but after Thanksgiving you'll find me chowing down on turkey with a side of this spicy, flavorful rice. —Lauren Mifsud 🍷



Photo by Laruen Mifsud

Spanish Rice

Recipe from About.com

2 tablespoons olive oil (can use up to 1/4 cup)
1 onion, chopped fine
1 garlic clove, minced
2 cups of medium or long-grain white rice
3 cups* chicken stock (or vegetable stock if vegetarian)
1 heaping tablespoon tomato paste or 1 cup of diced fresh or cooked tomatoes, strained
Pinch of oregano
1 teaspoon salt

In a large skillet brown rice in olive oil, medium/high heat. Add onion and garlic. Cook onion rice mixture, stirring frequently, about four minutes, or until onions are softened. In a separate sauce pan bring stock to a simmer. Add tomato sauce, oregano, and salt. Add rice to broth. Bring to a simmer. Cover. Lower heat and cook 15-25 minutes, depending on the type of rice and the instructions on the rice package. Turn off heat and let sit for 5 minutes.

*Check the instructions on the rice package for the proportions of liquid to rice. They can range from 1:1 to 2:1. If your rice calls for 2 cups of water for every cup of rice, then for this recipe, use 4 cups of stock for 2 cups of rice.

special menus with teas. \$34 adults, \$29 children ages 4-10. Sun., Dec. 9. Reservations 472-2001, menus and times TBA at www.bedfordvillageinn.com.

• **MOTHER DAUGHTER TEA** Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford) annual winter event for mothers and daughters, special menus with teas. \$34 adults, \$29 children ages 4-10. Sat., Dec. 15. Reservations 472-2001, menus and times TBA at www.bedfordvillageinn.com.

• **HEARTHSIDE HOLIDAY FEAST** at the Remick Country Doctor Museum and Farm (58

Cleveland Hill Road, Tamworth, 323-7591) Saturday Dec. 15, 5-7 p.m. \$40. Locally grown food and authentic farm recipes.

Church/charity bake sales

• **COMMUNITY SUPPER** Unitarian Universalist Congregation (20 Elm St., Milford) every third Wednesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Contact 673-6629 or visit www.uucm.org.

• **HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE FUNDRAISER** Tues., Nov. 27, at 5 p.m. at Riverworks (164 Main St., Newmarket, 659-6119).

suppers/

Raise money for the Newmarket Holiday Food Drive, 10 percent of every check plus personal donations accepted. Reservations available.

Cooking classes/workshops

• **HEAD INTO THE HOLIDAYS HEALTHY** The Food and Health Forum and Philbrick's Fresh Market will hold a class on cravings, dieting, and healthy recipes for the holiday season and its enticing fare at Blue Moon Evolution (8 Clifford St., Exeter) Mon., Nov. 26, 7-9 p.m. Custom-

Yams vs. sweet potatoes

The great Thanksgiving debate

No Thanksgiving meal is complete without a great sweet potato or yam dish. Completely different from the standard white or russet potato, these potatoes tend to come to the table dressed up more like dessert than a savory side. Their sweetness complements the saltiness of a Thanksgiving ham perfectly. Yet, the question remains, are you a yam family or sweet potato family?

While many of us *think* we are yam families, yams are actually difficult to find in North America, as 95% of yams are grown in Africa. While many of us think yams and sweet potatoes are interchangeable, according to the Library of Congress, yams and sweet potatoes aren't even related botanically. Sweet potatoes are dicots (a plant having two embryonic seed leaves) while yams are monocots (only one seed leaf). Yams can be enormous (largest recorded was 130 lbs!) and are starchier and drier than sweet potatoes. This African food is rarely found here in the States.

So, why the confusion? Apparently there are two major types of sweet potatoes found in the U.S.: soft and firm. The soft (that turn soft after being cooked) are mostly known as yams in supermarkets while the firm are labeled sweet potatoes. African slaves in the United States called the soft variety of sweet potatoes "yams" because they most resembled the vegetable they knew from back home. When you shop this Thanksgiving, take a look at the labels. You might see a sneaky "sweet potato" label underneath what your market labels a yam.

The good thing is, they all taste pretty amazing and work with the recipe I've provided below. Deviating from the sweeter recipes typically found with "yams" or a sweet potato, this dish is savory and will have you forgetting about brown sugar and marshmallows entirely — trust me. This is a dish that will win over your guests and have them fighting over seconds and thirds. It has become a staple at my holiday table.

—Allison Willson Dudas



Yam Gratin

from Wegman's recipes

Serves 6

3 pounds yams or sweet potatoes, peeled
1 teaspoon salt
2 cups heavy cream
½ cup shredded Grand Cru Gruyere cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees (warning, this dish takes 1 hr 45 min to cook but it's worth it!). Grease a 9 X 9 pan and grab a baking sheet to place underneath it in the oven (to prevent spills).

In large bowl, combine cream and salt. Slice yams thinly, using knife or mandoline, and place into cream mixture. Coat yams generously with cream mixture. Place one third of the yams into bottom of pan and top with half of the gruyere. Layer on another third of the yams and the remaining cheese. Top with last of the yams and pour what's left of the cream mixture on top.

Bake for 30 minutes. Take out and press top down with spatula or fork so creamy mixture coats the top.

Bake for another 30 minutes and repeat the above step.

Lastly, bake for 40-45 minutes (until yams are tender) and let cool for 15 minutes.

ers can register for the classes at Philbrick's in North Hampton and Portsmouth or online at www.foodandhealthforum.com. \$45, discount available for registering for entire series.

• **TOTAL VEGAN GOURMET** Concord Community Education is offering a vegan cooking class at the Concord High School (170 Warren St., Concord) on Mon., Nov. 26, 6-9 p.m. Tuition \$38; pre-registration is required, call 225-0804 or visit www.classes-forlife.com.

• **CHEESEMAKING** Barnstead Community Market (13A Parade Road, Barnstead, 269-2253) chee-

semaking class Thurs., Nov. 29, 6-8 p.m. Registration required, call 568-7318. \$35. Visit the market online at barnsteadcommunitymarket.homestead.com.

• **THEMED COOKING CLASSES** Two nights of themed cooking classes at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., No. 325, Dover, 842-4077). Check out Alice in Wonderland on Cooking classes on Jan. 10 and 24 and Indulgence themed classes on Feb. 7 and 21, all four run 6:30-8:30 p.m. Classes correspond with dinners and are \$100 or \$175 for the set of two, \$25 discount for booking at the dinner.

• **FREDERICK'S PASTRIES** at 109 Route 101A in Amherst offers one-time classes for kids and adults in cake decoration and design. Check www.pastry.net or call 882-7725 for schedule.

• **FARM FOOD, GARDEN TO TABLE** Join Chef Johnathan of Moulton Farm (18 Quarry Road, Meredith, 279-3915, www.moultonfarm.com) for classes on preparing healthy dishes using farm-raised ingredients. Some classes have fees. Second and fourth Wednesday each month from 3 to 4 p.m. Call or email robmmoultonfarm@metrocast for details and reservations.




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FOOD JUST DESSERTS

Holiday cookies

It's a tradition. Every year, near the end of Thanksgiving dinner, somewhere between the last bite of stuffing and the first bite of pie, my father breaks out the Christmas music. It is an annual rite of passage ushering in the holiday season.

For me, the kickoff of Christmas means cookies: chocolate chip cookies topped with holiday M&Ms, peanut butter cookies topped with Hershey's Kisses, shortbread, biscotti, pizzelle, colorfully iced sugar cookies – the list goes on.

So for the next few weeks, this column will be focusing on the unparalleled Christmas pleasure of cookie-baking. I will offer old favorites and experiments with new recipes (assuming they come out edible). This week, we start out with my personal favorite, molasses spice.

Though gingerbread cookies are a Christmas classic, I have never liked them. They are always too dry and the spicing is always somehow off, making for a cookie that is far more visually appealing than it is tasty.



This recipe reverses that equation. It produces a cookie of modest appearance and delicious flavor. Cinnamon, cloves, and ginger give the cookies a heady spice, while molasses adds earthy sweetness. The texture is chewy and moist, and the simple icing adds a burst of pure sugar. All in all, it may be the perfect cookie. Enjoy.

—Sarah Shemkus

Iced Molasses Spice Cookies

I found this recipe, originally from Gourmet, on epicurious.com and have tweaked it here and there over the years.

4 cups all-purpose flour
½ teaspoon salt
2¼ teaspoons baking soda
2 teaspoons ground ginger
1¼ teaspoons ground cloves
1¼ teaspoons cinnamon
½ cup unsalted butter, softened
½ cup vegetable shortening
1½ cups sugar
½ cup unsulfured molasses
2 large eggs
2 cups confectioner's sugar
3 to 4 tablespoons milk

Preheat oven to 325 degrees and lightly grease two large baking sheets.

In a large bowl whisk together flour, salt, baking soda, ginger, cloves, and cinnamon. In another large bowl with an electric mixer beat together butter, shortening, and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in molasses, then beat in eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Gradually beat in flour mixture and combine well.

Form dough into 1½-inch balls and arrange on baking sheets arrange balls about 3 inches apart. Flatten slightly with bottom of a glass. Bake cookies in batches in middle of the oven 15 minutes, or until puffed and golden.

Transfer cookies with a metal spatula to racks to cool. Whisk together confectioner's sugar and milk. Use spoon or clean pastry brush to ice top of each cookie.

- **EXETER ADULT EDUCATION** Cooking classes offered at Tuck Learning Center (30 Linden St., Exeter) Sessions on baking, global cuisine and more. Dates and fees at 775-8457, tgluck@sau16.org or http://adulted.sau16.org.
- **HANNAFORD SUPERMARKETS** offer free classes on stretching your food budget, healthy cooking, time-saving meals and more. See www.hannaford.com and click on "news & events" for classes at the Hannaford near you.
- **JEWETT FARMS STUDIO** 58 Merrimac St., Newburyport, Mass., 978-961-1538, jewett-farms.com, offers cooking classes with Chef Mary Reilly (the-savorykitchen.net). Classes cost \$90 per person.
- **STONEWALL KITCHEN COOKING SCHOOL** 2 Stonewall Lane, York, Maine, 877-899-8363, www.stonewallkitchen.com, offers evening cooking classes and demonstrations, "Learn at Lunch" and "Learn at Brunch" classes, classes for teens and kids and more. See the full schedule of daily classes online.
- **WINTERGREEN BOTANICALS** in Bear Brook State Park in Allentown (268-0548, www.wintergreenbotanicals.com) offers classes on the use of herbs for better health. See schedule online.
- **A MARKET** The Manchester natural foods store's education center offers classes and workshops on health and nutrition. See amarketnaturalfoods.com.
- **CHEZ BOUCHER COOKING SCHOOL** 32 Depot Square in Hampton, 926-2202, www.chezboucher.com, offers one-day workshops, mini-sessions, international cooking, cooking with friends, team-building, classes for kids, and more.
- **CREATIVE FEAST CLASSES** Liz Barbour's Creative Feast, www.thecreativefeast.com, has classes and demonstrations. Email lizb@thecreativefeast.com or go online to register.
- **CO-OP CLASSES** The Concord Cooperative Market, 24 S. Main St. in Concord, 410-3099, www.concordfoodcoop.coop, holds wellness and green living classes. See www.concordfoodcoop.coop or call 225-6840.

FOOD Thanksgiving pairings

Fruity wines to complement the big meal

By Stefanie Phillips
food@hippobpress.com

If your family is anything like mine, it's not Thanksgiving without turkey, the fixings and plenty of wine all around. This holiday lends itself to time spent around the table, sharing food and drink. Here are some Thanksgiving pairing suggestions from New Hampshire wineries for drinkers of reds and whites.

Thanksgiving honors the fruits of the season: cranberries, apples and pumpkins. Many wineries in New Hampshire capture the essence of these fruits in their wines.

Apple wine

Apples are such a fall staple, it's no surprise several wineries take advantage of this abundant fruit from local orchards.

Sweet Baby Vineyard in East Kingston offers an apple wine that is semi-sweet, clean and crisp, with a nice balance of acidity. It has a velvety texture in the mouth and a long-lasting finish.

Nearby in Newfields, WindRoc Vineyard's apple wine is bright and crisp, capturing the essence of an apple with mild flavor and just a touch of sweetness.

Flag Hill Winery in Lee has an apple wine reminiscent of a hard cider that is perfect for fall sipping. It is sweet and crisp, representing the fruit with a great balance of acidity and tartness.

Over in Gilford, Stone Gate Vineyard offered an apple wine this year that I just adored the first time I tried it. It is subtle yet refreshing, with just a hint of sweetness.

I can't pick a favorite from these wines because I like them all, but I can recommend a recipe from Jerry at WindRoc. Mix any of these apple wines with some mulling spices, water and brown sugar in a crock pot and let it mull for a few hours. It will smell and taste like the essence of fall. This would be a great Thanksgiving offering, especially if it's a chilly day, because this drink warms you up like hot cider.

For a slightly different twist, try Sanbornton winery Hermit Woods' Heirloom Crabapple wine, their "signature wine." The first batch, made in 2008, was based on crabapples off the tree in the winery's backyard. This wine is off-sweet, tangy and satisfying. It was love at first sip for me when I first visited Hermit Woods last year. I also have to mention Moonlight Meadery in Londonderry; its Kurt's Apple Pie is made from local apple cider with vanilla and cinnamon. I recently tried this mead, and the aroma alone had me hooked. It is like drinking apple pie

out of a glass. This can be enjoyed at the end of a meal or over ice cream as a delicious dessert.

Cranberry wine

Like cranberry sauce on the table, cranberry wine is a great complement to the Thanksgiving meal.

Zorvino Vineyards in Sandown offers two distinctly different cranberry options: CranZeeno and Cranbreez. The CranZeeno is a lighter, fruity cranberry wine blend that even non-wine lovers will like. The Cranbreez is much more tart and may bring a slight pucker to your lips. As a great option, the Cranbreez can be mixed with prosecco, Champagne or sparkling wine to make a festive cocktail.

Haunting Whisper Vineyards in Danbury makes a cranberry wine that is slightly less tart but encapsulates the essence of cranberries in a crisp, fruity wine.

Way up in Center Ossipee, Sap House Meadery offers a cranberry sage mead for the holidays. I haven't tried this yet, as it wasn't ready when I visited, but judging from their other selections, I am willing to bet this mead is fabulous.

As a side note, some wineries offer an apple-cranberry wine to combine the best of both of these fruits. I personally enjoy Flag Hill's wine, which is sweet and tart, but other wineries like Sweet Baby and Labelle Winery offer different versions.

Other recommendations

If there are some red wine drinkers at your Thanksgiving table, suggest they try South Hampton winery Jewell Towne's Leon Millot, a mellow red wine with subtle aromas of cranberries, black raspberries and licorice.

Dry red wine fans may enjoy Gilmanton Winery and Vineyard's Malbec, which has cherry notes and a nice smoothness.

They may also like Candia Vineyards' Noiret, a dry, rich, intense wine with pepper and mocha overtones.

Pumpkin fans will enjoy this year's batch of Jumpin' Jacks Pumpkin Dessert Wine from Zorvino Vineyards. The staff there spends hours slaving away, cutting up hundreds of pounds of pumpkins to create this wine. While this wine isn't cheap, it is only available once a year and combines the best characteristics of pumpkin with mulling spices to create a wine that is rich and almost savory.

Let a good bottle of wine complete your holiday meal this season. Whatever you choose to drink, I hope you enjoy good food and great company. 🍷

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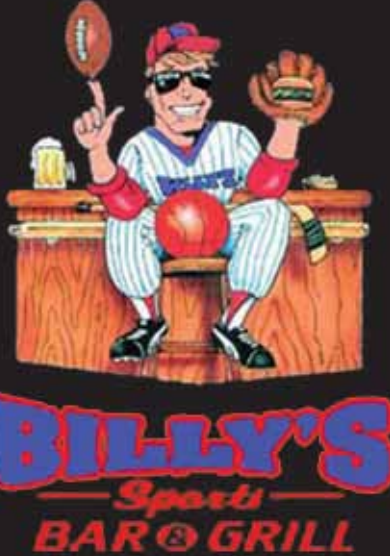
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DRINK

Red, white and green

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If you're a zinfandel-lover, you'll love this week. We did.

Our first wine was the **2009 Limerick Lane Zinfandel Collins Vineyard** (\$17.99). Limerick Lane is a family-owned winery in the Russian River Valley near the town of Healdsburg in Sonoma County north of San Francisco and west of the Napa Valley, and they only produce a few thousand cases. Though the Russian River Valley has recently become well-known for the ever popular pinot noir, it was first home to zinfandel. Zins are uniquely American because we're really the only county that produces this varietal — and zins tend to be big and brash — well, you get the point. The color of this red was a deep maroon and so dark you couldn't see through it in the glass. For nose we got deep prune plum and pepper. This is a zin, we said. For flavors we got big with no mouth-puckering tannins, a lush cherry and woodiness with white pepper. We could almost eat the wine, it was so full.

Our second wine was the **2010 Plungerhead Old Vine Zinfandel** from Lodi (\$14.99). Lodi is a farming community east of Napa Valley known for making grapes that go in jug wines, but times are changing. Lodi is fast becoming a must-visit place on any California wine trip, with several producers putting out interesting red wines. Plungerhead fits the bill, though its



is big enough to get up and walk out of the room, it doesn't have any tannins and has a nice roundness from a bit of acid to balance out the big fruit. One taster said, "It's just so rich, I love it."

Each week in "Red, White & Green," two wine-lovers look at red and white wines, none over \$20 (and most under \$15), in an attempt to find some great bottles for good prices. All prices are according to the state liquor store (nh.liquor.state.nh.us) unless otherwise stated. 🍷

Drink Listings

Classes/workshops on wine/beer making

- **THANKSGIVING SPECIAL** IncrediBREW (112 Daniel Webster Hwy, Nashua, 891-2477) offers big discounts on Friday, Nov. 23, and Saturday, Nov. 24, brewing sessions. Brewers get \$30 off any six week brew; \$20 off any four week brew plus gifts. Scheduling is first come, first served.
- **INTRO TO HOMEBREWING** Wed., Dec. 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$20 per person. A&G Homebrew Supply (165 High St., Portsmouth). To register, call 767-8235 or email alex@aghomebrewsupply.com.

Classes/workshops on beer/wine tasting

- **WINE SOCIETY** (650 Amherst St., No. 9, in Nashua, 883-4114; www.winesociety.us) offers classes for wine-lovers of all levels. Call for schedule.
- **WINE NOT BOUTIQUE** 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, www.winenotboutique.com, offers six-week courses on different subjects related to wine. Sign up for all six classes or for individual sessions.

Special meals

- **COMEDY NIGHT BEER DINNERS** Wednesdays at Holy Grail Pub (64 Main St., Epping, 679-9559) with live entertainment, food, cold beer. \$34 per person. See holygrailrestaurantandpub.com.
- **IN THE MIX KITCHEN SERIES** at New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets' superstore (25 Coliseum Ave., Nashua) with local restaurants pairing meals with wine and spirits. Free, noon to 2 p.m. every Saturday.
- **ALL-SPARKLING WINE AND FOOD** Thurs., Dec. 6, at 6:30 p.m. Six sparkling wines with paired with three tapas sized apps, \$35. Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown). Reserve at 887-8463 or www.zorvino.com.
- **ZORVINO HOLIDAY PARTY** Jingle ball holiday party. Sat., Dec. 8, at Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown). 6-11 p.m., \$50. Wine tasting, dinner and dancing. Reservations, 887-8463 or www.zorvino.com.

Special wine tastings

- **PINOT NOIR TASTING** Thurs., Nov. 29, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at WineNot (170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569). Nine Pinot Noirs in flights, from bottles \$15 to \$30.

Antipasto plate by Villa Banca.

\$40, reserve at winenotboutique.com or by phone.

- **SPARKLING WINE TASTING** WineNot (170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569) Thurs., Dec. 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$50, nine varieties tasted in flights. Fine cheeses and bonbon specially prepared by Dancing Lion Chocolate. Reserve at www.winenotboutique.com or by phone.

Special beer tastings

- **SMUTTYNOSE TASTING** at Bert's Better Beers (1100 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 413-5992, www.bertsbetterbeers.com) Tues., Nov. 27, 4:30-7:30 p.m. Free, bring valid ID.

Weekly/monthly tastings

- **BUTTER'S** Weekly wine tastings at Butter's Fine Food and Wine, Concord, 225-5995, www.buttersfinefood.com
- **CORNUCOPIA WINE AND CHEESE MARKET** 4 Front St., Exeter, 772-4447, holds a tasting every Friday from 4 to 7 p.m.
- **DOVER WINE STORE** 364 Central Ave., Dover, 742-WINE (9463), www.doverwine.com, on Fridays, 4 to 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m.

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Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events.

To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Kelly Sennott at ksennott@hippopress.com. To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

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EL PERRO DEL MAR, PALE FIRE MEMPHIS INDUSTRIES RECORDS



Back in 2006 my CD reviews were always looking for trouble. Any fight I could pick with slack-jawed tastemakers was an opportunity for me to add a scalp to my snark-pelt, thereby inadvertently exposing how awesome I was, which, looking back, wasn't very. Even then, though, I knew you didn't insult massively popular new artists you actually liked just because they were suddenly massively popular, such as this Swedish girl, Sarah Assbring, who is all there is to El Perro del Mar. *Pale Fire*, her fifth LP, is as

awesome as the first thing I'd heard from her, namely her self-titled sophomore dealie of '06, made of the same intoxicatingly chilly, sexually healed triphop as this. Think a bee-stung Portishead, pretty much, although grown-up lovers of Shakira could absolutely relate to this. "Hold Off the Dawn" takes its new-age yuppie-yearning cues from Sting circa his macrobiotic diet; the highly refined bling beat of "Walk on By" may seem as if it's begging for half-interested indie-rap flows, but it works just as nicely as a daybed for the swooning and pouting she settles on top of it. Velvet-rope chill-house decorates "Love In Vain." **A** — *Eric Saeger*

DEFTONES, KOI NO YOKAN REPRISE RECORDS



Buy this, buy this, buy this (actually, does anyone buy music anymore, honest question?). Any band playing slowbie drugged-up-tyrannosaur metal that sounds fresh and maniacally aggressive and doesn't suck, especially now that it's nigh on what, 42 years since Sabbath first appeared, has earned some of your ear-time, particularly if you're still stubbornly listening to nothing but albums that came out when Republicans were still allowed to propose tax increases.

The riffage here, especially for the first few songs, is on par with Crowbar, and although singer Chino Moreno is a little too far into Papa Roach territory on bonehead-ballad "Entombed," he's all up in early Korn for most of the LP, about one banshee wail for every five lines of nu-metal cleanliness. Those are really about the only two comparisons I can come up with, Korn and Crowbar — cruising with this guy blasting out of your car would absolutely justify keeping that super-weird skinny-hillbilly beard your girlfriend keeps nagging you about. **A** — *Eric Saeger*

PLAYLIST

A Seriously Abridged Compendium of Recent and Future CD Releases

• The increasingly corporate-beholden **Alicia Keys** releases her fifth album next week. The title track is "Girl on Fire," which you would have heard if you accidentally tuned into the *2012 MTV Video Music Awards* while channel-surfing for something substantive or interesting. The song itself is a military-marching almost-'80s-metal thing that sounds like Whitney Houston singing for Judas Priest. What a weird weird world it's becoming!

• **Wu-Block** features Ghostface Killah and Sheek Louch of Wu-Tang Clan and D-Block. "Union Square," from their debut LP, is a sloppy woozy ode to dirty girls who somehow find it difficult to be nice girls who collect troll dolls and dream of riding ponies in sparkly forests, or so it's imagined by these rap stars. This is a groundbreaking notion within the genre, obviously.

• **Therion** (also known as "Not The Trans Siberian Orchestra") are the Swedish sympho-metal band responsible for recording the worst version of "O Fortuna" in the history of music. Their new LP, *Les Fleurs Du Mal*, will be out next week. I know, I know, but at least it wasn't titled *Secret of the Runes, Part II*, which it easily could have been, if they really wanted to bum people out.

• The always freshly scrubbed Canadian ren-faire-folk band **Great Big Sea** kicks off your weekly Parade of Useless Box Sets this week, with their new two-disk comp, *Xx*, streeting on Tuesday. We don't really have to go over this, do we? Really? OK, it's two disks of stuff that isn't nearly as good as the worst Gaelic Storm song you've ever heard, and not nearly as boldly cowboy-hatted as Decembrists, thus it's something for dentist offices of some mythical Edmonton of the future, when Hollywood suddenly realizes Canada actually does have a lot of oil, if not a lot of good bands.

• But that ain't all, for the Parade of Useless Box Sets! Come, dig with me into the muck, where we encounter *Rage Against the Machine — XX: The 20th Anniversary Edition Deluxe Box Set!* This two-CD/two-DVD/one-vinyl-LP set is perfect for the middle-aged anarchist in your family, who will be angry that you spent \$100 on this corporate-made product, but will forgive you, because anarchy 4-ever. — *Eric Saeger*

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On the air

SNHU radio broadcasting exclusively online

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

It's about 9:55 p.m. when Logan Ouellette and Sean Howesen mosey over to the brand-new radio studio at Southern New Hampshire University on a recent Tuesday evening. Ouellette clutches a not-yet-opened bottle of Moxie and a fresh bag of Lay's barbecue potato chips as he sits down. Howesen carries his laptop and new iPod. Ouellette, a graphic design major, sports a gray and red hoodie; Howesen, a business major, khakis and a collared shirt.

They're setting up for their weekly ritual: Contra Radio on Radio SNHU.

The two have hosted their own radio show for three years now, but as juniors, they're only just able to appreciate the new student center at SNHU, and, specifically, the new radio center inside. New green paint is splashed on the walls, and a big wall-sized window allows them to see people in the hall while they're on the air. The new station is a huge improvement over one they had last year, Ouellette says; they once had to cancel a show because of a bee infestation.

Howesen pops open his laptop, while Ouellette preps the studio to go on air. ("Three years, and he still doesn't know how to do this," Ouellette says exasperatedly, gesturing to Howesen.) As 10 p.m. hits, the show begins.

Every Tuesday, when the clock strikes 10, they shoot the breeze and play their favorite tunes: The National, David Brothers, City and Colour, Bon Iver, Death Cab for Cutie and Local Natives, to name a few.

They're two of about 20 members of Southern New Hampshire University's radio station, Radio SNHU. The radio station is one of the younger college radio stations out there, having started in 1999 in the final years of New Hampshire College (at the time called Radio NHC), making it the second college radio station in the United States to broadcast exclusively online.

They have about nine regular listeners in this late time slot, which might not sound like much, but the people who do listen really like listening to the show, Howesen said. They can usually tell who their listeners are through their Facebook page.

They keep the show about half music, half talk radio. They play music you wouldn't hear in the Top 40, but it is "college radio" type music. It's like indie music, or "folk music, but if you were to spread it over every genre," Ouellette said. "The music we play on the show has a huge following ... but just not around here."

While it can be tough to juggle work,



Logan Ouellette, who hosts Contra Radio with fellow SNHU student Sean Howesen. Kelly Sennott photo.

Listen to Radio SNHU

Visit radio.snhu.edu, and click "Listen Live." Ouellette's and Howesen's show is every Tuesday evening from 10 p.m. to midnight.

school, internships and homework, Ouellette and Howesen said they like setting this time aside each week.

"I like sharing music that people might not have heard before. It's basically like we're just hanging out, just talking. It's also a good way for us to stay in touch with people in other schools," Howesen said.

They'll talk about movies, pop culture, and for their friends and family who are listening, they'll talk about what's on their mind: freak-outs about graduating, funny stories of their week.

While they know they may not have as many listeners as an FM radio station might, Internet radio has its perks. For one, the radio signal is always clear.

"With Internet, we have a better chance of people actually listening to the show, because we don't have to worry about static," Ouellette said.

They get to attend events like the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System conference on webcasting in Los Angeles on Dec. 1, which is specifically about online radio. Internet radio might not be listened to as much as FM radio, but according to Harry Kozlowski, president of WCNH-LP 94.7 FM and local radio connoisseur, the Internet is where radio is headed in the future.

"We're in a weird place with radio and newspapers," Kozlowski said — with Internet radio stations, while you won't usually listen to them in your car, you're not limited to FM coverage. "Going forward 10, 20, 30 years into the future, radio might all be Internet-distributed," Kozlowski said.

They're looking to obtain an FM station, Ouellette said. They're growing, hoping the conference in L.A. will help them build ideas, and are working to create a bigger, better website as well. 🍷

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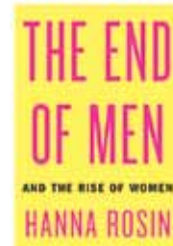
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POP CULTURE BOOKS

The End of Men (And the Rise of Women), by Hanna Rosin (Riverhead, 271 pages)



Two years ago, journalist Hanna Rosin prophesied the end of men in *The Atlantic*, and in the predictable aftermath of a hot-and-happening story, landed a book contract to expound on the topic.

The result is an engaging gender-studies thesis, dense with facts and anecdotes, that make you wonder if it's not men who are endangered, but marriage.

Not once does Rosin resurrect the old feminist slogan "A woman needs a man like a fish needs a bicycle," but the entirety of the book is a testament to the thinking. In fact, I suggest a *Ladies' Home Journal*-inspired sequel, "Could That Marriage Have Been Saved?" so we can learn what becomes of the relationships Rosin examines in *The End of Men*.

There's Steven and Sarah of Pittsburgh: She's a lawyer; he's a stay-at-home dad who has a degree in electrical engineering but leaves dirty diapers in the sink and lets their toddler son urinate in the hall. Steven, who goes to law school at night, calls himself "mediocre house dude" and acknowledges that he keeps their child "mostly fed" and the house "mildly clean." Sarah leaves for work at 8 a.m. and gets home around 6 p.m., at which point she makes dinner and a pie, tends to her son's untreated rash and mops up urine. Livin' the dream.

Elsewhere, we meet Billy and Hannah, unmarried partners of 11 years in Wisconsin. Billy is an unemployed painter. Hannah is one of Rosin's "pharm girls," the women who have flooded pharmacy schools, upending the well-paid profession that requires a six-year degree. In 1960, 8 percent of pharmacists were women; today, 60 percent are.

While Billy fishes, Hannah works and studies; she makes all A's and is on the dean's list at the University of Wisconsin. Although she didn't take Billy to the pharmacy school's annual ball because "he'd be completely out of place ... People are so much more educated," she stays with a man who "just doesn't want anything more." They're still together, she says, because they "crack each other up."

Uh huh. Five bucks says the divorce train is coming 'round the bend, tooting for Steven and Billy.

The plate-shifting gender changes in the American workplace, Rosin writes, are consequences of the shift from industry to information, which paralleled the assorted advances of feminism.

"At some point in the last 40 years, the job market has become largely indifferent to size and strength, and from then on, in

many pockets of the workforce, men no longer held the cards," Rosin says.

Women, she reminds us, now dominate the workforce and academia. For every two men who will graduate from college this year, three women will. Twelve of the fastest-growing jobs in the U.S. are in fields dense with women. While men's wages overall are stagnant, women's are not. The changes add up to a transformation of our homes and workplaces, with men shuffled off to the side, left to collect unemployment checks or to fill positions in fields long considered "women's work," like child care, food preparation and nursing.

For men like Billy, it's not that the jobs aren't there, but that they're unwilling to learn them. They've become what Rosin calls "cardboard men," inflexible, unwilling to change, stagnant, like their overall wages.

Women, meanwhile, are "plastic," performing "superhuman feats of flexibility."

"Plastic Woman," Rosin writes, "has gone from barely working at all to working only until she got married to working while married and then working with children, even babies. If a space opens up for her to make more money than her husband, she grabs it. If she is no longer required by ladylike standards to restrain her temper, she starts a brawl at the bar. If she can get away with staying unmarried and living as she pleases deep into her thirties, she will do that, too. If the era calls for sexual adventurousness, she is game."

Adds Rosin, "Cardboard Man, meanwhile, hardly changes at all. A century can go by and his lifestyle and ambitions remain largely the same."

The perfect anecdote: A man in Alexander City, Ala., one of 8,000 workers who lost a job when the Russell Corp. closed, called the unemployment office to check on his benefits, and found himself talking to his old secretary at Russell. When she transferred him to her supervisor, it was another woman who had once worked for him. The women had built a bridge over their misfortune and crossed it; the man was still moping on the other side.

If Rosin, a former Washington Post reporter, makes the future sound bleak and disheartening for men, she does so only by ignoring her own marriage. In *The End of Men*, she mentions a husband and children, but neglects to mention that the husband is David Plotz, editor of the e-zine *Slate*, and that theirs is, from all appearances, a joyful union of well-matched brains and ambition, and there appear to be no unwashed diapers in their sink. In an Atlantic video available online, the couple and two of their children laughingly debate whether girls are better than boys. Plotz proves that even men can be plastic. Men will not end, of course, even if they're cardboard. But possibly their jobs and their marriages will. **B**

—Jennifer Graham

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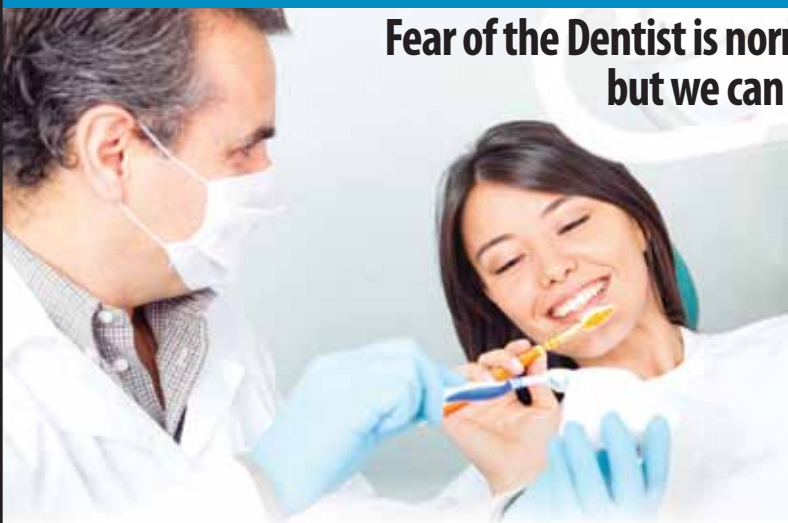
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64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derry.lib.nh.us
- **Goffstown Public Library**
2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstown.lib.nh.us
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2 Monument Square, Hollis, 465-7721, hollis.nh.us
- **Hooksett Public Library**
1701B Hooksett Rd, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org
- **Manchester City Library**
405 Pine St. (main branch) and 76 N. Main St. (West branch), 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us
- **Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum**
18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, indianmuseum.org
- **Nashua Public Library**
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49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us
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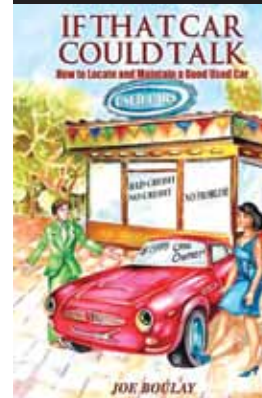
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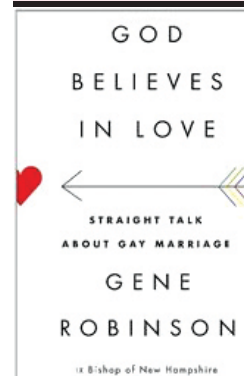
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USED CAR ADVICE



Buying a used car can feel like a risky experience. Expert mechanic Joe Boulay shows you how to “see” a car before you spend hard-earned money in *If That Car Could Talk: How to Locate and Maintain a Good Used Car*, dispensing car shopping advice and explanations of what to look for and listen for when you’re not buying a never-been-used automobile. He’ll talk about his book at The Toadstool Bookshop of Milford (586 Nashua St., Milford), on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 11 a.m. Visit toadstool.indiebound.com or call 673-1734.

STRAIGHT TALK



Bishop Gene Robinson, the first openly gay person elected to the episcopate and the world’s leading religious spokesperson for gay rights and gay marriage, will talk about his book *God Believes in Love: Straight Talk About Gay Marriage*, at Water Street Bookstore, 125 Water St., Exeter, 778-9731, on Monday, Nov. 26, at 7 p.m.

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Author events

- **ARCHER MAYOR** signs and discusses his latest Joe Gunther mystery, *Paradise City*, at Gibson's Bookstore (27 S., Main St., Concord) on Fri., Nov. 23, at 2 p.m.
- **JESSICA BIRCH** visits The Toadstool Bookshops of Milford (586 Nashua St., Milford) on Sat., Nov. 24, 2-4 p.m., to speak about and sign her memoir, *Confessions of a Transsexual Physician*.
- **JOE BOULAY** dispenses car-shopping advice with his book, *If That Car Could Talk*, on Sat., Nov. 24, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at The Toadstool Bookshop of Milford (586 Nashua St., Milford).
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Believes in Love: Straight Talk About Gay Marriage on Mon., Nov. 26, at 7 p.m., at Water Street Bookstore (125 Water St., Exeter, 778-9731, waterstreetbooks.com).

- **DENNIS LEHANE** presents his newest book, *Live by Night*, on Tues., Nov. 27, at 7 p.m., at Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord). Rescheduled from Oct. 27. Tickets are \$28.50, which includes a copy of the book. Visit ccanh.com.
- **MIKE PRIDE** will read from and sign his book, *Our War: Days and Events in the Fight for the Union*, on Thurs., Nov. 29, at 7 p.m., at Gibson's Bookstore (27 S. Main St., Concord).
- **JAY MCINERNEY** will talk about his newest collection of wine essays, *The Juice: Vinous Veritas*, at the Music Hall Loft (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 766-2192) on Thurs., Nov. 29, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$41.
- **JACK HEATH** from “The Pulse” radio will sign his new book, *Salem VI: Rebecca's Rising*, on Sat., Dec. 1, 2-4 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 1741 S. Willow St., Manchester.
- **REBECCA RULE** will promote *The Iciest, Diciest, Scariest Sled Ride Ever!* on Sat., Dec. 1, 10 a.m.-noon, at Colby Christmas Tree Farm, 342 High

Good movie? Discuss

SNHU film series inspires thoughtful talks

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippypress.com

What started as a course on Shakespeare and film has blossomed into a wide-ranging film series at Southern New Hampshire University.

Last fall, SNHU English professor David Swain taught a course featuring nine Shakespeare films. Swain invited a different professor to introduce each film to the students and talk about how it might tie into his or her field of study.

"I was gratified to have students ask last spring, 'So, are you going to do a film series again?'" Swain said.

Swain decided to expand the class into a film series this fall. Again, he asked professors to suggest "an essential film" that would provoke discussion. The idea was to have professors tie film suggestions to their own classes, Swain said.

The result is an 11-film series spanning the fall and spring semesters. The series kicked off Oct. 3 with *Breathless*. On Halloween night, more than 40 students and faculty members attended a screening of the *Rocky Horror Picture Show*.

The film series is open to the public. Films are shown in Walker Auditorium in Robert Frost Hall on the SNHU campus, 2500 River Road in Manchester, on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

"While the series does not have a theme, I aimed to cover as many genres and time periods as possible," Swain wrote in an email. The concept began in Swain's mind as a way to discuss "big ideas in the humanities."

"I wondered how faculty would respond to the notion of picking one film on which they 'stake their career,'" Swain said. "This was a bit restrictive, so I broadened it a bit to picking one essential film that would generate discussion."

Faculty members were "eager to keep the selections eclectic, provocative and unpredictable," Swain said.

"Several faculty knew immediately which film they'd pick; the [chairman of Humanities] picked *High Noon* without hesitation; a historian knew he had to show *Gallipoli*," Swain said. "I wanted to do something French and experimental, but knew it had to be accessible, so why not a French response to classic Hollywood gangster movies?"

Swain detected a bit of a buzz on campus following film screenings this fall, particularly the screening of *Gallipoli* and *Rocky Horror Picture Show*, he said. "Students were excited to have both serious and wacky films on campus," Swain said.



The 1952 western *High Noon* will screen at SNHU on Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 7 p.m. Courtesy photo.

Selections include Jean-Luc Goddard's "new wave" classic, *Breathless*, Orson Welles' *Touch of Evil* and the 1960s comedy *Dr. Strangelove*. SNHU will screen the classic Western *High Noon* on Wednesday, Nov. 28.

"There has not, to my knowledge, ever been a serious attempt to show film on campus in any organized way," Swain said. "Student organizations occasionally show a topical or new release film, but perhaps only once or twice a year."

Swain said 14 students attended the screening of *Breathless* and most of the audience remained afterward to talk about the film's "offbeat style and characterization," as well as about certain scenes and the film's treatment of gender and love.

"[Q]uite a few students in arts and sciences have demonstrated substantial knowledge of certain genres of film, and they seem eager to have their experience expanded," Swain said.

The university recently hired film historian Vanessa Rocco to teach classes on the history of film. Some professors have offered special credit for reports on films, which does drive some of the attendance.

"With many students interested in visual narrative, particularly in the context of game design, film is an easy entry point for more sophisticated discussions of visual art and media," Swain said.

On screen

Southern New Hampshire University's free film series screens at 7 p.m. on select Wednesdays through April. Send email to d.swain@snhu.edu.

High Noon (PG, 1952) Wednesday, Nov. 28.

Gloria (PG, 1980) Wednesday, Dec. 12.

Dr. Strangelove (PG, 1964) Wednesday, Feb. 6.

Amadeus (PG, 1984) Wednesday, Feb. 20.

Glory (R, 1989) Wednesday, March 13.

Touch of Evil (PG-13, 1958) Wednesday, March 27.

Pandora's Box (NR, 1929) Wednesday, April 10.

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Lincoln (PG-13)

The president muscled the 13th amendment through Congress in the final days of the Civil War in Lincoln, an entertaining character study from director Steven Spielberg.

Abraham Lincoln (Daniel Day-Lewis) has been recently reelected to the presidency, but that doesn't mean life is now easy sailing. The country is still at war with itself, and Congress is awash with all sorts of discontent — in addition to the Democrats in actual rebellion with the country, there are the Democrats who remain in the union but have sympathies for the slave-holding south, Republican abolitionists (led by Tommy Lee Jones' Thaddeus Stevens) who are at odds with other members of their party and a slew of lame duck congressmen whose loyalties and ideals are, potentially, flexible. Before a new Congress is seated and certainly before the war ends and southern states are a part of the Congressional tally again, Lincoln wants a vote on the 13th amendment abolishing slavery. He needs 20 votes and, with the help of Secretary of State William Seward (David Strathairn), he sets out to get them — first by offering patronage to those lame-duck congressmen and then by applying pressure himself.

Meanwhile, Lincoln faces just as much discord on the homefront. His wife Mary Todd Lincoln (Sally Field) is still shaky from the death of their young son a few years earlier. Her grief has gotten in her way of being a good mother to their youngest son, Tad (Gulliver McGrath), and is one of the reasons she won't let oldest son, Robert Lincoln (Joseph Gordon-Levitt), enlist in the army. Robert, fearful that service in the war will be the measure of a man in the coming years, is determined to join up.

If you could dial Aaron Sorkin back to half-speed and replace his



Lincoln

earnest polic-sci-geekdom with a Spielberg glow, you'd have a good sense of where this movie lives. The best scenes feature Lincoln, Seward and a trio of very shady persuaders — played with glee by James Spader, Tim Blake Nelson and John Hawkes — working the numbers, clawing for one more yes vote. We get a Lincoln more like LBJ than a deified American saint, working the legislative branch to make a group of people with competing interests do something they have no real interest in doing. The movie's second best scenes feature Lincoln using folksy, goofy stories to annoy, confound or charm his staff and his opponents. Day-Lewis clearly digs into the man, particularly the professional Lincoln, the Lincoln at

work, and enjoys flushing out the character (a "character" in the movie, but also, we suspect, a character that Lincoln created to help him do his job as president).

Less successful and less interesting is the Lincoln family. The petulant Robert, the erratic Mary — it feels like these characters are here to make the movie seem more about the man and less about the month he spent working on the amendment. I personally would have been perfectly happy to see the energy spent on these characters used on the congressional battle instead. We didn't learn anything new about the Lincoln family in these scenes that seem to suck momentum out of the rest of the story.

Whether you are a Lincoln buff

or not, Day-Lewis' performance is enough to make this two-and-a-half hour saga enjoyable. And even though there is no surprise about the fate of the amendment, the political maneuverings make for some edge-of-your-seat story telling. (I'm not one to cry at movies but I did choke up a bit when the 13th Amendment was read, and I got chills when pieces of the Gettysburg Address and Lincoln's Second Inaugural were recited. Who knew presidential speeches and constitutional amendments were my *The Notebook*?) But there is a processed-bread quality to *Lincoln* that smooths out too many of the rough edges. I liked the window into history, but I would have liked a closer look at some of the grittier messier parts of 1860s politics even more. **B**

Rated PG-13 for an intense scene of war violence, some images of carnage and brief strong language. Directed by Steven Spielberg with a screenplay by Tony Kushner (based in part on a book by Doris Kearns Goodwin), Lincoln is two hours and 29 minutes long and distributed by Touchstone Pictures.

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 2 (PG-13)

Vampires face off against vampires while CGI launches an attack on your eyeballs in The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 2, the final chapter in the Twilight saga.

Or at least, let's hope.

If you've never seen/read any *Twilight*ness before, this movie is most definitely not the place to dive into the world. It opens on a newly vampired Bella (Kristen Stewart) blinking her red-irised but perfectly-made-up eyes and beholding her vampire husband Edward (Robert Pattinson). Their half-vampire, half-terrifying-CGI baby (born at the end of the last movie via violent C-section) is being cared for by

Edward's vampire family, the Cullens. Also hanging around is Jacob (Taylor Lautner), a werewolf, who has an eternal connection to Bella's infant — yes, a 2gether4ever type thing, though not in a *To Catch a Predator* way. He's more of an Unky Werewolf, at least until the child reaches adulthood.

And that just covers the, like, first 10 minutes. The movie isn't going to wait around for you to catch up. Get on board the sparkle train; it is headed for Overwrought Junction, with or without you.

After learning the basics of being a vampire — how to hunt, how to stop hunting if you don't want to eat people — Bella settles into a gingerbread house-like cottage on the property of her vampire in-laws. She is blissfully happy playing house with Edward and their child, who is aging at a very fast clip, which is lucky for her since it means she won't have to take her Frankensteined name — Renesmee (eventually played by Mackenzie Foy) — to middle school. Bella even manages to hang out with her father, Charlie Swan (Billy Burke), who decides not to ask too many questions about his daughter's recent paleface makeover and the sudden appearance of a child who looks a lot like her.

Of course all this sunniness can't last. The Volturi, those robe-wearing vampire autocrats from Italy, get wind of Renesmee's existence and think she is a forbidden vampire child. As clairvoyant vampire Alice (Ashley Greene) sees, the Volturi are headed to Forks, Wash., to destroy the Cullens and the abomination that they think Renesmee is. The only chance to save everybody's lives is to convince the Volturi that Renesmee is mortal. To do that, the Cullens travel the world in search of vampires who will come and, er, something. "Witness" is tossed around a lot. Though, if the Volturi are as blood-thirsty as discussed, I'm not sure why having

REVIEWLETS

* indicates a movie worth seeing. For reviews of graded films, go to www.hippopress.com.

*Argo (R)

Ben Affleck, John Goodman. Tense, fun, fast-paced and exceptionally well done,

this spy caper is based on the true story of the Iranian take-over of the American embassy in Tehran. **A**

Life of Pi (PG)

Surjai Sharma, Irrfan Khan. Based on the Yann Martel novel, a teenage boy finds

himself adrift in the ocean with a Bengal tiger. The big buzz here is the use of 3D in a serious film. Opens Wednesday, Nov. 21.

*Pitch Perfect (PG-13)

Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson. Acapella nerds get their own

version of the "dance movie" with this delightful tale of a college acapella team that looking for redemption and a music geek looking for a reason to get engaged in college life. The riff-off alone is worth the price of admission. **A**

Red Dawn (PG-13)

Chris Hemsworth, Josh Hutcherson. Wolverines! The 1980s classic Cold War freak-out is remade with Chin-, er, I mean North Korea as the evil empire this time. Opens Wednesday, Nov. 21.

Rise of the Guardians (PG)

Voices of Hugh Jackman, Alec Baldwin. The likes of Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy and more come together to fight an evil spirit. Opens Wednesday, Nov. 21.



Twilight: Breaking Dawn - Part 2

a bunch of people witness your grisly death is all that helpful. I think the idea is that the Volturi will be less reflexively kill-y with a lot of extra vampires hanging around, although again, the description of them here and what we saw of them in previous movies doesn't suggest that they would be bothered by having an audience. In any event, the gathering of witnesses takes up a good chunk of the middle part of the movie and introduces us to a bunch of special-ability-having X-Men-like vampires, none of whom is particularly important, as it turns out, to the plot.

And, really, that's fine because the fewer times we're forced to watch some special effects nonsense involving a vampire who can control electricity or water or whatever, the better. I've never been as unsettled at a *Twilight* movie — really, at any vampire movie — as I was in the opening 15 to 20 minutes of this one where we're forced to watch baby Renesmee age. It is super creepy, that CGI baby face pasted on whatever was standing in for the infant (one of those health-class dolls? a real baby? a green sack of flour replaced in post-production by a baby stock-photo composite?). It was a jarringly bad part of the last movie, and it remains a weird choice. I've already agreed to watch a movie about vampires and werewolves and Taylor Lautner's abs; I think I can suspend disbelief about whatever child actor choices they would have made. A real baby, even if it didn't exactly match the features of the kid who eventually plays Renesmee, would have been so much less distracting.

And while the vampire make-up here seems to have settled down some — sure, plenty of them have mime-like pancake makeup, but some of them just seem to have a light dusting of pale mineral highlights — the werewolf images have become less believable. They feel very much like computer illustrations pasted in a scene instead of part of it.

So let's talk about why one might come to this movie, aside from just the completist's

desire to see it all through: the culmination of the Edward-Bella relationship. After movie after movie of "you're human, I'll hurt you" mooney restraint, the couple is finally on equal footing. After getting some sex out of the way early on (obviously, the couple had sex when Bella was still a human, hence little Renfaire, but vampire on vampire sex is allegedly so much hotter — not that you'd know from this movie), we actually don't get a lot of their relationship. As it turns out, with the Jacob love triangle done and threat of Edward's eating Bella removed, they just aren't that exciting of a couple. So instead, may we offer you a little violence?

And here I begin to tread near the edge of spoilers. Suffice to say, some rather fun violence is in the offing — we see those super-powered-vamps showing off their talents in case the "witnessing" plan with the Volturi doesn't work. *Twilight* movie's have featured fight scenes before, but the one planned here is actually quite fun, and surprisingly Bella actually has a central role (we are blessedly done with all the "Bella's such a fumblepants" stuff). For a minute, it almost seems like the movie's makers decided to pump some bad-assery into this rather weak final entry. But then, well, no.

If you've come this far, if you've giggled through scenes of Michael Sheen hamming it up as the Volturi head or of the wonderfully wry Billy Burke (who is 96 percent of why I've been watching *Revolution*), you might as well take the final step and see *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 2*. But beware, these vampires aren't sucking blood, they're spreading cheese. C+

Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence including disturbing images, some sensuality and partial nudity. Directed by Bill Condon with a screenplay by Melissa Rosenberg (from the novel by Stephenie Meyer), The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 2 is an hour and 55 minutes long and is distributed by Summit Entertainment.

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- The Sessions** (R, 2012) Tues., Nov. 20, and Wed., Nov. 21, at 2, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.; and Thurs., Nov. 22, at 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.
- The Perks of Being a Wallflower** (PG-13, 2012) Tues., Nov. 20, and Wed., Nov. 21, at 2:05, 5:45 & 8:15 p.m.; and Thurs., Nov. 22, at 5:45 & 8:15 p.m.
- Solar Mamas** documentary, Tues., Nov. 20, at 6:30 p.m.
- Independent Lens** Red River Theatres partnered with New Hampshire Public Television to present a free monthly series of screenings and discussions featuring films from the PBS series Independent Lens. The screenings will take place on one Tuesday per month at 6:30 p.m. through June 2013: Nov. 20, Dec. 11, Jan. 8, Feb. 12, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11.
- Gaslight** (NR, 1939) Sunday Afternoon British Thriller series, Sun., Nov. 25, at 4 p.m., with tea and a biscuit.
- Seek Justice** three short videos about incarceration, Mon., Nov. 26, at 7 p.m.
- Went the Day Well?** (NR, 1942) Sunday Afternoon British Thriller series, Sun., Dec. 2, at 4 p.m., with tea and a biscuit.

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40 Main St. in Wilton, 654-3456, wiltontownhalltheatre.com

- Argo** (R, 2012) Tues., Nov. 20, Thurs., Nov. 29, at 7:30 p.m. Plus, Sun., Nov. 25, at 2 & 4:30 p.m.
- Lincoln** (PG-13) Fri., Nov. 23, through Thurs., Nov. 29, at 7:30 p.m. Plus, Fri., Nov. 23, through Sun., Nov. 25, at 2 p.m.
- The Yellow Rolls Royce** (1964) Sat., Nov. 24, at 4:30 p.m. Free.
- Silent Film Comedy Shorts** with live music by Jeff Rapsis on Sun., Nov. 25, at 4:30 p.m. Free.

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Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, www.facnh.com.

- Cinema Mardi, on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Film in French with English subtitles.
- Certified Copy** (2010) Tues., Nov. 20, at 7 p.m.

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405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, www.manchester.lib.nh.us

- Squanto: A Warrior's Tale** (PG, 1994) Wed., Nov. 21, at 1 p.m.
- Tower Heist** (PG-13, 2011) Wed., Nov. 28, at 1 p.m.
- The Trail of '98** (1928) silent film with live musical accompaniment, Tues., Dec. 4, at 6 p.m.

WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560, www.manchester.lib.nh.us

- The Rescuers Down Under** (G, 1990) Fri., Nov. 23, at 3 p.m.
- Brave** (PG, 2012) Fri., Nov. 30, at 3 p.m.

SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY

Robert Frost Hall, 2500 River Road, Hooksett, www.snhu.edu

- High Noon** (PG, 1952) Wed., Nov. 28, at 7 p.m.
- Gloria** (PG, 1980) Wed., Dec. 12, at 7 p.m.
- Dr. Strangelove** (PG, 1964) Wed., Feb. 6, at 7 p.m.
- Amadeus** (PG, 1984) Wed., Feb. 20, at 7 p.m.
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- Touch of Evil** (PG-13, 1958) Wed., March 27, at 7 p.m.
- Pandora's Box** (NR, 1929) Wed., April 10, at 7 p.m.

NHTI

Sweeney Auditorium, 31 College Drive, Concord, 271-7185, www.nhti.edu. Friday night films are open to the public. Admission is free with a \$5 suggested donation.

- Detective Dee and the Mystery of the Phantom Flame** (PG-13, 2010) Fri., Dec. 7, at 7 p.m.

KELLEY LIBRARY

234 Main St., Salem, 898-7064, www.kelleylibrary.org, features a movie night the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

- A Christmas Carol** (PG, 1984) Thurs., Dec. 6, at 6:30 p.m.

POLLARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

401 Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass., 978-970-4120, www.pollardml.org, film night on the second Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Films are not rated.

- Foreign Letters** (2012) English,

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THE MUSIC HALL

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, www.themusichall.org. Some of these films are being screened at Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress St. See website for details.

- How to Survive a Plague** (NR, 2012) Sun., Nov. 18, at 3 & 7 p.m.; and Tues., Nov. 20, & Wed., Nov. 21, at 7 p.m.
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- Arbitrage** (R, 2012) Fri., Nov. 23, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Nov. 24, at 3 & 7 p.m.; Sun., Nov. 25, at 7 p.m.; and Tues., Nov. 27, through Thurs., Nov. 29, at 7 p.m.
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- Sister** (2012) French with subtitles, Tues., Nov. 20, through Thurs., Nov. 29: Fridays at 6:30 & 8:45 p.m.; Saturdays at 4:15, 6:30 & 8:45 p.m.; Sundays at 5:15 & 7:30 p.m.; and Monday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
- Searching for Sugarman** (PG-13, 2012) Fri., Nov. 30, at 6:45 & 8:45 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 1, at 4:45, 6:45 & 8:45 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 2, at 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.; and Mon., Dec. 3, through Thurs., Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m.

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39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com

- Flow State** (2012) Fri., Nov. 23, at 7:30 p.m.
- Miracle on 34th Street** (1947) Fri., Dec. 7, at 7 p.m.

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- Searching for Sugarman** (PG-13, 2012) Mon., Nov. 19, through Thurs., Nov. 22, at 7 p.m.
- Arbitrage** (R, 2012) Fri., Nov. 23, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Nov. 24, and Sunday, Nov. 25, at 2, 5 & 8 p.m.; and Mon., Nov. 26, through Wed., Nov. 28, at 7 p.m.

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Nite Roundup

Local music & nightlife news

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Blues a deux:** Guitarist Coco Montoya spent 10 years in John Mayall's Bluesbreakers after learning to play from "Iceman" Albert Collins in the 1970s. Duke Robillard is best known for stints in Roomful of Blues and The Fabulous Thunderbirds, and as an ax for hire on records by Bob Dylan, Tom Waits and John Hammond. See Coco Montoya and Duke Robillard on Friday, Nov. 23, at 7 p.m. at Laconia High School, 345 Union Ave., Laconia. Free admission. See rosebudus.com.

• **Circular logic:** Inspired by evenings at The Bluebird Cafe and other clubs in his Nashville recording base, Dusty Gray invited a few songwriter friends for a local round-style show. Gray, Tristan Omand, Lucas Gallo and Matt Poirier trade songs and share harmonies at a fundraiser for a favorite performing space. Attend Songwriter's Round on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 7 p.m. at River Hill Grange, 32 Horse Hill Road, Penacook. Tickets are \$5; the event is BYOB. See www.dustygray.com.

• **Opa:** A seacoast Greek eatery celebrates its expansion with an evening of music, dancing and, of course, food. Indie folk rockers Black Agnes open the night. Traditional tunes follow with the duo of Chuck Koustas and Ross Richardson, along with line dancing and many shouts of "Opa," a Greek expression meaning "serene exuberance." Attend Live Music — Greek Nite on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 7 p.m. at Café Nostimo, 72 Mirona Road, Portsmouth, cafenostimo.com.

• **Gaelic gala:** Highland Soles, a Maine-based family band featuring fiddle superstar Ed Pearlman and his piano prodigy son, headline an evening of traditional Scottish music that also includes Laura Scott, a step dancer who has appeared with Natalie MacMaster, The Battle Band and other legendary Celtic acts. Attend the Gala Scottish Concert on Sunday, Nov. 25, at 2:30 p.m. at Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Tickets are \$12 to \$22; call 673-5145 or go to srsnh.org.

• **Busker:** There's something poetic about singing "I Will Survive" and "My Heart Will Go On" in the subways of New York City. Alice Tan Ridley went from serenading commuters to a well-received audition for *America's Got Talent*. Last year, the New York Music Awards named her their Best Unsigned Artist. See Alice Tan Ridley on Tuesday, Nov. 27, at 8 p.m. at Elm Street Middle School, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Tickets are \$11.50 to \$28; go to nashuacommunityconcerts.org.

NITE

Shopping independents

Keep it local on Black Friday Record Store Day

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

From its inception, Record Store Day has been a stereophonic affair. Conceived five years ago in Scarborough, Maine, by Bull Moose Records co-founder Chris Brown, it launched with a free Metallica concert in the Mountain View, Calif., parking lot of Rasputin Music — two channels, coast to coast.

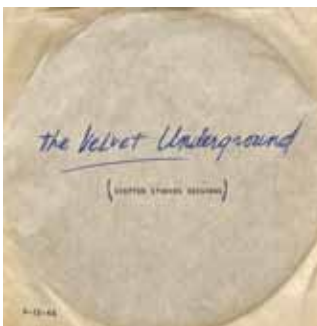
In 2010, the spring event grew worldwide and added the day after Thanksgiving. Taking a page from the big boxes, participating stores open before dawn, but unlike Best Buy and Walmart, the big attractions aren't deep discounts but exclusive, limited editions.

Most of the specials are on vinyl, the fastest-growing segment of recorded music. According to Nielsen Soundscan, vinyl sales took off in 2008, broke records last year and are growing by 16 percent in 2012. It's a local phenomenon too, from area musicians like Tristan Omand releasing a 12-inch version of *Wandering Time* — offering colored vinyl to certain Kickstarter donors — to healthy queues on Black Friday.

Last year, Salem Bull Moose Records Manager Chris Wood said, "We had 15 to 20 people lined, which is awesome considering they're all here to buy vinyl." The crowds and general chaos of the nation's biggest shopping day mean most places won't offer the live shows common in the spring.

"It's a bit too hectic for in-store performances, but since we're opening at 6 a.m. we do things like trivia games," Wood said. "We try to make it fun for people."

To satisfy demand, labels release reproductions by classic rockers, albums often long out of print or simply never released. From contemporary bands, there are clever items like *Golden Gear*, a sprock-



et-shaped colored disc by the band fun. This was Brown's favorite release for last spring's Record Store Day.

Hand-numbered and limited to 1,800 copies, *Joe Strummer Live at Action Town Hall* is sure to be a hot item. Formerly only sold digitally, the 2002 show reunited Strummer and Clash bandmate Mick Jones for the first time in 20 years, shortly before Strummer's untimely death.

The Strummer album is among several "Record Store

Day only" items, like the two-sided 7-inch disc of Leonard Cohen and Jeff Buckley each performing "Hallelujah." Cohen's version was essentially ignored upon release in 1984. Since then, more than 300 artists have covered it, with Buckley's version perhaps the most revered. "Hallelujah" is the subject of an Alan Light book due in December.

Other items include an EP of Buck Owens covering the Eagles (a mid-'70s session

Record Store Day – Black Friday

When: Friday, Nov. 23

Participating area stores:

- **Bull Moose Music**, with locations in Salem and Portsmouth, www.bullmoose.com
- **Metro City Records**, 691 Somerville St., Manchester, www.metrocityrecords.com
- **Newbury Comics**, with four New Hampshire locations, www.newburycomics.com
- **Pitchfork Records**, 2 S. Main St., Concord, 224-6700

thought lost to history), a 20th anniversary 45-RPM edition of Nirvana's *Insecticide*, along with picture discs of David Bowie's "Jean Genie" single and *Pizza Box* by the Fat Boys, with vinyl resembling a pizza, packed into a cardboard box.

Want an off-the-wall choice? Check out the *Obscure Giants of Acoustic Guitar* trading card set, offered by San Francisco's Tompkins Square record label. The 37-card collection features portraits by artist Shana Cleveland, and biographies detailing the work and lives of these overlooked performers.

With supplies ranging from just 500 to 5,000 copies, not everything is available at all stores. Some places, like Concord's Pitchfork Records, reserve the rare stuff for regular customers. But bigger stores like Bull Moose (with 11 locations, two in New Hampshire) and Newbury Comics (28 New England locations, four in New Hampshire) do their best to meet demand.

But if the quest for Joey Ramone's *Ya Know* (complete with Christmas ornament) should fail, take heart — and buy something else. There's much to choose from and it helps small business. Plus, it definitely beats a Toys 'R Us tug-of-war over a Monster High doll. 🐾

Rock opera debut

TSO performs *Lost Christmas Eve* in Manchester



A Trans-Siberian Orchestra show. Courtesy photo.

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

A holiday tradition returns to Manchester on Nov. 24 when Trans-Siberian Orchestra and its massive orchestral rock explode into the Verizon Wireless Arena for two shows. This year features Christmas-themed selections drawn from the band's catalog and a new five-song EP (*Dreams of Fireflies*, a free digital download with each ticket purchase), along with songs from non-holiday records, all presented with unrivaled staging, lights and specials effects.

What's different this year is the show will kick off with *The Lost Christmas Eve*, the final installment of the band's *Christmas Trilogy*, performed from start to finish. Every TSO show is a rich night of storytelling, but mounting an entire rock opera is something else.

"It's always a little bit new every year, but this is really new," said music director and keyboard player Derek Wieland by telephone from Omaha during a break from rehearsals. "One of the things about TSO — in a certain way it is creating a new form, and I think this is the next evolution in doing that."

The Lost Christmas Eve is a tale of hope and redemption about a man trying to find the son he abandoned at birth. But in many respects the biggest character in the story is New York City itself. This thought weighed on Wieland's mind as he spoke just days after Hurricane Sandy ravaged so much of the area. "We are working at music and making things up," he said, "but you have this sense of timing. I think people are going to connect to it even more deeply."

Wieland played on the 2004 CD release of *The Lost Christmas Eve* and began touring with TSO in 2005. He took over as music director three years ago. The classically trained pianist owns a studio in Manhattan, which managed to stay out of

Trans-Siberian Orchestra

When: Saturday, Nov. 24, at 3 and 8 p.m.
Where: Verizon Wireless Arena, 555 Elm St., Manchester
Tickets: \$40.50 to \$66.50 at www.ticketmaster.com

the storm's path. "It was a random piece of luck, but it's really tough and bad in a lot of places right now," he said.

The band's late December show in Newark, N.J., is in the heart of the storm's hardest-hit areas. A portion of ticket sales are donated to local charity at every tour stop, but Long Island native Wieland hopes the New Jersey performance will provide additional respite. "The thing about TSO is it's inspirational, it has a hopeful message and it brings people together," he said. "You go to a show to enjoy yourself ... but that's a part of it too, and it's even better."

Wieland said he feels this inspiration almost every night. "When you are really connecting with the audience, when you look out and see a young kid ... singing along to every word, you appreciate that you are a part of something that so many people connect with when there are so many things that people can enjoy and are passionate about," he said. "It's a great feeling."

With more than 25 performers onstage during two simultaneous tours, the band welcomes a wide range of singers and musicians. "That is a really awesome part of TSO," Wieland said. "We are a lot of musicians and we have people from all different genres, ages and backgrounds. That strength of drawing from all that different talent is what makes what TSO does possible."

Though each year's performance contains similar elements, this youthful enthusiasm keeps things vibrant. "A lot of people are able to come up through this and develop, bring a lot to it and get a lot from it," said Wieland. "That is a very exciting process. One thing that is kind of timeless about TSO is that it's able to be fresh all the time."

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Extreme juggling

If it won't kill them, they can probably juggle it

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

In his 40-year career, Paul Magid has juggled a dead octopus, a pig stomach filled with lime Jell-O and a breast implant — per his audiences' requests.

As one of the founders of the Flying Karamazov Brothers, Magid, with his crew of wild-haired, kilted companions, has developed a show that combines comedy, music, improvisation and juggling. In his signature stunt, called "The Gamble," Magid, who performs as Dmitri Karamazov, challenges the audience to present him with something he cannot juggle. If he can keep the chosen items in the air long enough, he is awarded with a standing ovation. If he fails, his punishment is a pie in the face.

Almost anything is fair game, but there are guidelines. The items have to weigh more than 1 ounce but less than 10 pounds, be no larger than a breadbox, cannot be alive and cannot reduce Magid's chances of being alive.

"People are very inventive and will spend days making things they think I can't juggle," Magid said. "But I tend to win more than I lose."

The Flying Karamazov Brothers will bring their antics to the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord on Friday, Nov. 23. Now a full performance involving musicianship and vaudeville-style comedy, Magid said that when he started juggling, it was merely a way to pass the time.

"I and another one of the co-founders went to the University of California at Santa Cruz," Magid said. "There were no grades at the time so we had a lot of time on our hands. I got obsessed with juggling and thought, 'Maybe there's something more going on here.'"

That idea developed into a full-fledged street show, which worked its way into theaters. As the audiences began to grow, the show found residency in New York City before heading out on tour.

When the four performers take the stage dressed in kilts or tutus, Magid said, the audience rarely expects to be amazed by the precision with which they can accomplish their physical stunts. The "nine objects of terror," an act that could see Magid tossing

a meat cleaver, a torch, dry ice and a frying pan, is one that he says leaves little doubt about the skill the Karamazovs possess.

"People are surprised that four cutups like us, who are seemingly wild and crazy guys, can combine skill, coordination and musicality while being so open and alive," Magid said.

Though on the surface, Magid said the act is a silly show, there are some deeper undertones that can be realized if the audience is paying enough attention. The goofy costumes are just a small example of that, which Magid said expresses the Karamazovs' personalities while demonstrating the group's cohesion.

"Part of the reason we wear what we wear is because we're outsiders, comedians and clowns in our kind of way," he said. "It's sort of a statement on freedom but also working together because we wear the same uniform."

The current show, Magid said, combines some of the group's best acts from over the years. He said the show may still evolve, but the audience in Concord can expect the best of the Karamazovs' repertoire.



The Flying Karamazov Brothers will juggle pins at their upcoming show in Concord, but expect some unforeseen items to be tossed around too. Courtesy photo.

The Flying Karamazov Brothers

When: Friday, Nov. 23, at 7 p.m.
Where: Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord
Tickets: Range from \$28 to \$55. Call 225-1111 or visit www.ccanh.com.

"This show has all kinds of wonderful stuff," he said. "It's an amalgam of things we have done over the years."

Nightlife Listings

Music, comedy & parties

• **DUKE ROBILLARD & COCO MONTOYA** will perform at the Laconia High School auditorium (345 Union Ave., Laconia) Fri., Nov. 23, at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

• **CHILDREN'S AUCTION ROCKIN' HOLIDAY BASH** at the Lake Opechee Inn & Spa Conference Center (62 Doris Ray Court, Laconia) Sat., Dec. 1, at 7 p.m. Come for a country barbecue followed by music by the Eric Grant Band. Tickets are \$60 with group discounts. Visit www.meadowbrook.net or email emma@meadowbrook.net.

• **SNOWFLAKE BALL** at the Concord Family YMCA (15 N. State St., Concord) Sat., Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m.-midnight. Live music from Club Soda and dinner provided by Granite Restaurant and Bar. Admission is \$95, and prior registration is required. Call 228-9622, ext. 127, email aomundson@concordymca.org or visit www.concordymca.org. RSVP is needed by Mon., Nov. 26.

• **DURHAM CHRISTMAS CONCERT** at the Universalist Fellowship (20 Madbury Road, Durham) Sat., Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. Susie Burke, David Surette and Kent Allyn will perform. Call 397-5781.

• **CHRISTMAS GUITAR CONCERT** at the Unitarian Universalist Church (292 State St., Portsmouth), Fri., Dec. 14, and

Sat., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. Grammy winner Ed Gerhard will be playing in this 30th annual show. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$28 at the door. Call 664-7200 or visit www.virtuerecords.com.

• **HARVEY REID AND JOYCE ANDERSEN** will perform at the First Parish Church (218 Central Ave., Dover) Fri., Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m. Reid plays acoustic guitar and autoharp and Andersen plays fiddle and sings. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the show. Call 207-363-1886. Visit www.seascoastguitar.org.

• **DUELING PIANOS NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY** Boynton's Taproom, 155 Dow St., Manchester, 623-7778, will host its second annual New Year's Eve party featuring Dueling Pianos on Mon., Dec. 31, starting at 9 p.m. Tickets are general admission and include show, party favors, champagne toast at midnight, more. See www.boyntonstaproom.com.

Bowling

• **BOUTWELL'S BOWLING CENTER** 152 N. State St., Concord, 224-0941

• **BOWL IT CENTER** 244 Elm St., Milford, 554-1633, funbowling.com

• **LAKESIDE LANES** 2171 Candia Road, Manchester, 627-7722, lakesidelanes.com

• **LEDA LIGHHOUSE** 340 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-4884, ledalanes.com

• **KING BOWLING LANES**



The Makem and Spain Brothers return to the Rochester Opera House Nov. 24 at 8 p.m. for what has become an annual tradition. Start off the holiday season with a night of Irish folk music. Tickets range from \$20 to \$22. Call 335-1992 or visit www.rochesteroperahouse.com.

751 Mast Road, Manchester, 623-9215, kingslanes.com

• **MERRIMACK TEN PIN CENTER** 698 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 429-0989

• **MILFORD LANES** 244 Elm St., Milford, 554-1633

• **SPARE TIME** 216 Maple St., Manchester, 625-9656, stadiumtenpin.net

Chess

• **CHESS CLUB** open to players of all levels, 7 to 9 p.m. Fridays

at Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Call 589-4600.

Entertainment

• **SUNDAY NIGHT BALLROOM** dance parties are held weekly at Queen City Ballroom Dance Studio, 21 Dow St., Manchester, from 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$9; admission is free for first-timers. Singles and couples are welcome. Call 622-1500 or visit queencityballroomnh.com.

• **POETS JAM** will be held at

The Jam Factory at Raxx Billiards, 1211 Elm St., Manchester, on Wednesdays, from 7:30 to 10 p.m. The jam is 18-plus.

• **SINGLES DANCE** held every Friday at 8 p.m. with DJ JoAnn at Daniels Hall, Route 4, Nottingham. Admission is \$12 and includes free light buffet and drinks, casual dress. Call 942-8525 or see www.singlesdanceparties.com.

Karaoke

• **603 LOUNGE** 14 W. Hollis St., Nashua, 821-5260, Thursdays at 8 p.m.

• **ANTHONY'S PIER** The Pier at Weirs Beach, 263 Lakeside Ave., Laconia, 366-5855, Thursdays at 5 p.m. w/Bobby Freedom

• **BEIJING & TOKYO** 61 S. Main St., Concord, 228-0888, Fridays and Saturdays at 9 p.m.

• **BUCCOS** 143 Main St., Kingston, 642-4999, Thursdays, from 7 to 10 p.m. w/ DJ Bob Fauci

• **CENTRAL WAVE** 368 Central Ave., Dover, 742-9283, Mondays and Wednesdays at 9 p.m.

• **CITY SPORTS GRILLE** 216 Maple St., Manchester, 625-9656, Thursdays at 9 p.m.

• **CHEN'S** 122 E. Broadway, Derry, 437-8338, Saturdays at 8:30 p.m.

• **CHEN YANG LI** 520 South St., Bow, 228-8508, Thursdays at 9 p.m.

• **CHOP SHOP PUB** 920 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-7706, Wednesdays at 8 p.m. w/ Matty R

• **DANIEL STREET TAVERN** 111 Daniel St., Portsmouth, 430-1011, Fridays and Sundays at 9 p.m.

• **DOVER BRICKHOUSE** 2 Orchard St., Dover, 749-3838, Sundays at 9 p.m.

• **ELEMENT LOUNGE** 1055 Elm St., Manchester, 627-2922, Sundays at 6 p.m. and Tuesdays at 8 p.m. with DJ Sharon.

• **FODY'S GREAT AMERICAN TAVERN** 9 Clinton St., Nashua, 577-9015, Tuesdays at 9 p.m.

• **GATE CITY PUB** 56 Canal St., Nashua, 598-8256, Thursdays at 9 p.m. to close with DJ Bernie D

• **GIUSEPPE'S** 312 DW Highway, Meredith, 279-3313, every other Thursday at 10 p.m.

• **HOLIDAY'S BAR & GRILL** 346 Hooksett Road, Auburn, 483-0880, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

• **THE HONEY POT** 920 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-2013, Mondays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. with The Wiz

• **JADE DRAGON LOUNGE** 515 DW Hwy., Merrimack Commons, 424-2280, Thursday through Saturday 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

• **KILLARNEY'S** 9 Northeastern Blvd., 888-1551, Tuesdays, 9 p.m. to midnight, DJ Bernie D

• **LAFAYETTE CLUB** Manchester, 623-9323, Thursdays at 9 p.m. w/ DJ Lance

• **MILANO'S SPORTS BAR** 1 Broad St., Nashua, Saturdays and Sundays at 8 p.m. w/ DJ Bernie D

MURPHY'S TAPROOM 494 Elm St., Manchester, Mondays, 8 p.m.

- **NEW WA TOY** 611 Mast Road, Manchester, 688-1088, Thursdays and Saturdays 8 p.m. to midnight
- **JONATHAN'S LOUNGE** at Park Place Lanes, 16 Rockingham Road, Windham, 898-4422, Monday through Friday at 8 p.m.
- **THE PAGE** 172 Hanover St., Portsmouth, 436-0004, Thursdays at 9 p.m.
- **PIT ROAD LOUNGE** 388 Loudoun Road, Concord, 226-0533, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9 p.m.
- **PRIME TIME** 620 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-7230, Thursdays at 9 p.m.
- **RICK'S ON MILL POND**, Route 125, Kingston, 642-3353, Fridays at 7 to 10 p.m.
- **ROCKO'S** 253 Wilson Ave., Manchester, 626-5866, Friday nights at 9 p.m.
- **SLADE'S** 4 W. Hollis St., Nashua, 886-1334, Tuesday through Friday at 9 p.m.

NITE CONCERTS

<p>Capitol Center for the Performing Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com</p> <p>The Colonial Theatre 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org</p> <p>Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana</p> <p>The Flying Monkey 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com</p> <p>Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casinoballroom.com</p> <p>Leddy Center 38c Ladd's Lane, Epping, 679-2781, ledlycenter.org</p> <p>Lowell Boarding House Park 40 French St., Lowell, Mass., www.lowellsummermusic.org</p> <p>Lowell Memorial Auditorium East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com</p> <p>Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net</p> <p>The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, themiddlenh.org</p>	<p>The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, the-musichall.org</p> <p>The Old Meeting House, 1 New Boston Road, Francetown Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org</p> <p>Prescott Park Arts Festival 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, www.prescottpark.org, 436-2848</p> <p>Rochester Opera House 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com</p> <p>Stockbridge Theatre Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com</p> <p>Tupelo Music Hall 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com</p> <p>Verizon Wireless Arena 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com</p> <p>Whittemore Center Arena, UNH 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, www.whitt-center.com</p>
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- **Ryan Montbleau Band** Wed., Nov. 21, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Entrain** Fri., Nov. 23, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Makem and Spain Brothers** Sat., Nov. 24, at 8 p.m., Rochester Opera House
- **The Mystix** Sat., Nov. 24, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Trans-Siberian Orchestra** Sat., Nov. 24, at 3 and 8 p.m., Verizon Wireless Arena
- **The Temptations** Thurs., Nov. 29, at 7:30 p.m., Colonial Theatre
- **Steve Earle** Thurs., Nov. 29, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Rita Coolidge** Thurs., Nov. 29, at 7 p.m., Stockbridge Theatre
- **Natalie MacMaster** Fri., Nov. 30, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Jeff Pitchell and Texas Flood** with Johnny A Fri., Nov. 30, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters** Sat., Dec. 1, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Natalie MacMaster** Sun., Dec. 2, at 2 and 7 p.m., Music Hall
- **Enter the Haggis** Sun., Dec. 2, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Tristan Omand** Tues., Dec. 4, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Judy Collins** Wed., Dec. 5, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Sister Kellogg** Wed., Dec. 5, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **John Ford Coley and Terry Sylvester** Fri., Dec. 7, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Watkins Glen Revisited: Peachaters, Playin' Dead** Sat., Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Dark Star Orchestra** Sat., Dec. 8, at 8 p.m., Lowell Auditorium
- **The Smithereens** Sat., Dec. 8, at 8 p.m., Sun.
- **Tom Rush** Sun., Dec. 9, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Martina McBride** Sat., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m., Lowell Auditorium
- **Adam Ezra Group** Sat., Dec. 15, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Boston Pops Holiday Concert** Sat., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m., Verizon Wireless Arena
- **BJ Thomas** Sun., Dec. 16, at 7 p.m., Stockbridge Theatre
- **Dave Matthews Band, The Lumineers** Wed., Dec. 19, at 7 p.m., Verizon Wireless Arena
- **Bellevue Cadillac** Fri., Dec. 21, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Lou Gramm, Julian Lage, Nels Cline** Sat., Dec. 22, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **James Montgomery Band** Thurs., Dec. 27, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Popa Chubby** Fri., Dec. 28, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Stephen Kellogg** Sat., Dec. 29, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Charlie Farren** Sat., Jan. 5, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Peter Mayer** Fri., Jan. 11, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Cherry Poppin' Daddies** Sat., Jan. 12, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Little Feat** Sat., Jan. 12, at 8 p.m., Cap Center
- **Johnny Winter** Sat., Jan. 12, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Apple Hill String Quartet** Fri., Jan. 18, at 8 p.m., Colonial Theatre
- **Guster** Sat., Jan. 19, at 9 p.m., Music Hall
- **The Manhattan Transfer** Thurs., Jan. 24, at 7:30 p.m., Cap Center
- **Paul Byrom** Fri., Jan. 25, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Blue Oyster Cult** Fri., Feb. 1, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Eddie Money** Fri., Feb. 1, at 8 p.m., Colonial Theatre
- **Commander Cody** Fri., Feb. 1, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **DeadPhish 2** Sat., Feb. 2, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Savoy Brown** Thurs., Feb. 7, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Kathleen Edwards** Fri., Feb. 8, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Gandalf Murphy and the Slambobian Circus of Dreams** Sat., Feb. 9, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Liz Longley** Thurs., Feb. 14, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Honky Cats: Dueling Pianos** Fri., Feb. 15, at 8 p.m., Colonial Theatre

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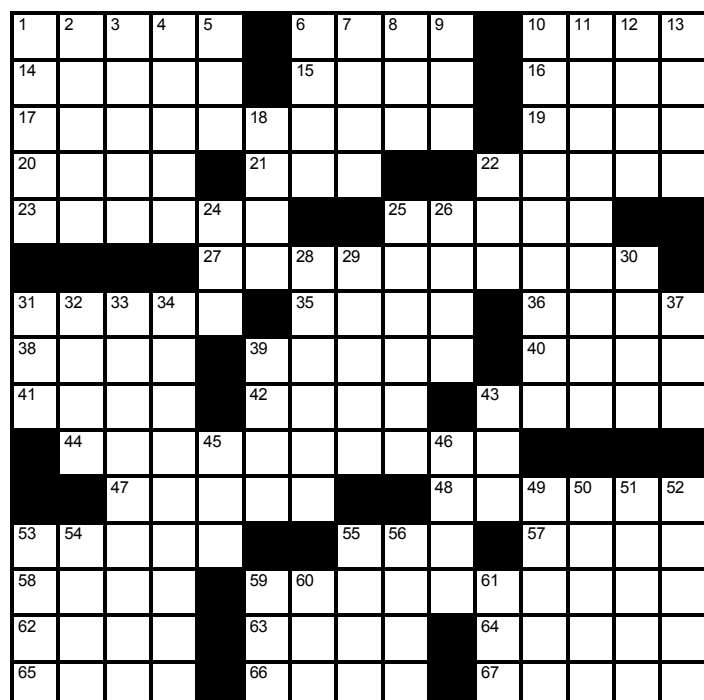
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As we're puzzlin' on by

Across

1. '89 Alice Cooper album you threw in the dumpster?
6. English sing/songer Orton
10. Bob Seger album about ark captain?
14. Christian metalcores ___ The Day
15. Practice space
16. Michael Jackson 'Another Part ___' (2,2)



- (1,5)
25. Double agents near bands
27. 'Creatures' ___ In White
31. Lifted CD
35. Desire to spend all your money on tix
36. Rollins Band "Cause I'm a ___!"
38. What Cake buys in 'Italian Leather'
39. What it does at some winter fests
40. Post-rehab drink
41. Ed Sheeran 'The A ___'
42. Escape (The ___ Colada Song)
43. Who the Left Banke told to 'Walk Away'
44. Oasis "___ the eye of your mind" (4,6)
47. '89 They Might Be Giants video (3,2)
48. Not downbeat
53. Derek & The Dominoes 'Why Does Love Got To Be ___' (2,3)
55. Chicago 'What Kind Of Man Would ___' (1,2)
57. Sedgwick Edie Brickell sang of on 'Little Miss S'
58. Robbie Williams band Take ___
59. Three Dog Night '___ Not To Come' (4,4,2)
62. Lenny Kravitz 'Believe ___' (2,2)
63. What The Beatles were 'Back In'
64. Spacehog debut 'Resident ___'
65. Elton sang of a 'Yellow Brick' one
66. He's 'The Wanderer'
67. NIN 'The Hand That ___'

Down

1. Gotye 'Somebody ___ Used To

- Know' (4,1)
2. What Queen were off to, on '76 album
3. Rights org.
4. The Why ___
5. Rod Stewart 'Crazy About ___'
6. Rainbow bassist Jimmy
7. Spill Canvas song about Himerus' sidekick
8. How many 'Summoner's Tales' Sting told
9. Dresden Dolls 'The Time ___ Come'
10. Weezer "I want a girl who laughs for ___" (2,3,4)
11. Saxon 'Crime ___' (2,7)
12. Kid Rock song for the Lord?
13. What couple did w/hands during ballad
18. British 'Life For Rent' singer
22. Bon Jovi '___ Sleep When I'm Dead'
24. UK music mag (abbr)
25. 'Happy Songs For Happy People' band
26. Aerosmith 'Big ___'
28. Some foot pedals help guitar with this
29. Maiden and Butterfly?
30. 'Smooth Operator' singer
31. One time Hüsker Dü label
32. They tap, at times
33. Blind Boys ___ (2,7)
34. Like backstage pass around neck
37. Corinne Bailey ___
39. What Dead Or Alive will do to a record
43. Label exec (abbr)
45. Might need one in kick drum

46. 'Ain't No Mountain High Enough' is one
49. 'Tigermilk' ___ & Sebastian
50. 'Every Which Way But Loose' Rabbitt
51. What artist did, for stardom
52. '00 Marilyn Manson song 'Disposable ___'
53. Hadise '___ Me Up'
54. '05 'Here It Goes Again' OK Go album (2,2)
55. Cream '___ Glad' (2,2)
56. Farm house Tom Waits told us not to go into
59. What dirt turned into at festival
60. Bob Dylan 'Good ___ Been To You' (2,1)
61. Member that quit before band's success

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Amherst Club Comedy at Amherst Country Club 72 Ponemah Road, 673-9908	Concord The Barley House 132 N. Main St., 228-6363 Granite Restaurant & Bar 96 Pleasant St., 227-9000 Hermanos 11 Hills Ave., 224-5669 Loudon Road Restaurant and Pit Road Lounge 388 Loudon Road 226-0533 Makris 354 Sheep Davis Road, 225-7665 Penuche's Ale House 6 Pleasant St., 228-9833 The Purple Pit Jazz Club 3 Pleasant St., Ext., 832-8876 The Red Blazer 72 Manchester St., 224-4101 True Brew Barista 3 Bicentennial Square, 225-2776	Dover American Legion Post 8 640 Central Ave. Barley Pub 328 Central Ave.,742-4226 Dover Elks Lodge 282 Durham Road Dover Bowl 887 Central Ave.,742-9632 Dover Brick House 2 Orchard St., 749-3838 11th Frame Bar 887B Central Ave., 742-9632 Fury's Publick House 312 DW Hwy, 617-3633 Jimmy's Sports Bar 15 Mechanic St., 740-4477 Kelley's Row 421 Central Ave., 750-7081 The Loft at Strafford Farms 58 Route 108, 743-3045 RJ's 83 Washington St. Roger's Pizza 869 Central Ave., 742-9870 Top of the Chop One Orchard St., 740-0006
Barnstead Barnstead Music Hall 96 Maple St., 269-2000	Davisville Muddy Pond Jazz Deal grounds of Davisville Flea Market, 805 Route 103 East (Exit 7 off I-89), 746-4000	Dunbarton Spieside Coffee House 6 Stark Highway North
Bedford Bedford Village Inn (BVI) 2 Olde Bedford Way, 472-2001	Deerfield Lazy Lion Café 4 North Road, 463-7374	Epsom Circle 9 Ranch Windymere Dr., 736-9656
Belmont The Lodge at Belmont Route 106, 877-872-2501 Top of the Town 88 Ladd Hill Rd, 528-3244 El Jimador Mexican Restaurant 171 DW Highway, 527-8122		
Boscawen Alan's 133 N. Main St., 753-6631		
Bow Chen Yang Li 520 South St. 228-8308	Derry Adams Opera House 29 W. Broadway Coffee Factory 55 Crystal Ave., 432-6006 Halligan Tavern 32 W. Broadway, 965-3490	Henniker Daniel's Main Street, 428-7621 Pat's Peak Sled Pub 24 Flanders Road, 888-728-7732 The Henniker Junction 24 Weare Road, 428-8511

Shooters Pub 10 Columbus Ave., 772-3856	Franklin Artemis Event Center 20 Canal St., 934-2000	Gilford Ellacoya Barn & Grille 2667 Lakeshore Rd, 293-8700 Gunstock Ski Area 719 Cherry Valley, 293-4341 Patrick's 18 Weirs Road, 293-0841	Hampstead The Pasta Loft 220 E. Main St., 378-0092 Route 111 Village Square 472 State St., 329-6879	Hudson AJ's Sports Bar & Grill 11 Tracy Lane,718-1102 JD Chaser's 2B Burnham Road, 886-0792	Kingston Bucco's Tavern 143 Main St., 642-4999 The Kingston 1686 House Tavern 127 Main St., 642-3637	Laconia Anthony's Pier Restaurant 263 Lakeside Ave., 366-5855 Baja Beach Club @ China Bistro 89 Lake St., 524-0008 Broken Spoke Saloon 1072 Watson Road, 366-5511 Cactus Jack's 1182 Union Ave., 528-7800 The Crazy Gringo 306 Lakeside Ave., 366-4411 Fratello's 799 Union Ave., 528-2022 Margate Resort 76 Lake St., 524-5210 Naswa Resort 1086 Weirs Blvd., 366-4341 Paradise Beach Club 322 Lakeside Ave., 366-2665
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Patio Garden Restaurant Lakeside Ave. Pitman's Freight Room 94 New Salem St., 527-0043 Tower Hill Tavern 264 Lakeside Ave., 366-9100 Weirs Beach Lobster Pound 72 Endicott St., 366-2255 Weirs Beach Smokehouse Rt 3 Laconia, 366-2400	City Sports Grille 216 Maple St., 625-9656 Club 313 93 S. Maple St., 628-6813 Club Realm 19 Amherst St., 935-7659 Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road, 623-2880 Don Quijote 333 Valley St., 792-1110 Drynk 20 Old Granite St., 836-5251 Element Lounge 1055 Elm St., 627-2922 Farm Bar & Grille 1181 Elm St., 641-3276 Fratello's 155 Dow St., 624-2022 Gaucha's Churrascaria 62 Lowell St., 669-9460 Hanover St. Chophouse 149 Hanover St., 644-2467 Ignite Bar & Grille 100 Hanover St., 494-6225 Jam Factory 1211 Elm St., 203-1458 Jillian's Billiard Club 50 Philippe Cote Drive, 626-7636 Jokers 1279 S. Willow St., 935-9947 Lafayette Club 387 Canal St., 623-9323 Lazy Nick's Coffee House 362 Huse Road, 232-7187 Luigi's Pizza Bar & Grille 712 Valley St., 622-1021 Mad Bob's Saloon 342 Lincoln St., 669-3049 McGarvey's 1097 Elm St., 627-2721 Milly's Tavern 500 Commercial St., 625-4444 Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St., 644-3535 My Friend's Bar and Grill 507 Maple St., 627-3444 NH Institute of Art 148 Concord St. Olympic Lounge 506 Valley St., 644-5559	Piccola's Upstairs Lounge 815 Elm St. Raxx Lounge 1195 Elm St. Rocko's Bar & Grill 253 Wilson St., 626-5866 Salona Bar & Grill 128 Maple St., 624-4020 Sam Adams Bar & Grill Northeast Delta Dental Stadium, 1 Line Drive., 641-2005 The Shaskeen 909 Elm St., 625-0246 Social 24 24 Depot St., 782-8489 Stage Door 96 Hanover St., 626-9830 Starbucks 1111 S. Willow St., 641-4839 Strange Brew Tavern 88 Market St., 666-4292 Theos 102 Elm St., 669-4678 Unwine'd 865 Second St., 625-9463 The Wild Rover 21 Kosciuszko St., 669-7722 Workmen's Club 183 Douglas St. XO on Elm 827 Elm St., 206-5721 The Yard 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545
Londonderry Coach Stop Restaurant and Tavern 176 Mammoth Road, 437-2022 Mayflower Grange 535 Mammoth Road, 867-3077 Stumble Inn Bar & Grill 20 Rockingham Road Whippersnappers 44 Nashua Road, 434-2660	Lafayette Club 387 Canal St., 623-9323 Lazy Nick's Coffee House 362 Huse Road, 232-7187 Luigi's Pizza Bar & Grille 712 Valley St., 622-1021 Mad Bob's Saloon 342 Lincoln St., 669-3049 McGarvey's 1097 Elm St., 627-2721 Milly's Tavern 500 Commercial St., 625-4444 Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St., 644-3535 My Friend's Bar and Grill 507 Maple St., 627-3444 NH Institute of Art 148 Concord St. Olympic Lounge 506 Valley St., 644-5559	The Wild Rover 21 Kosciuszko St., 669-7722 Workmen's Club 183 Douglas St. XO on Elm 827 Elm St., 206-5721 The Yard 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545
Loudon Graverobbers Coffeehouse Loudon Congregational Church, 7018 Church St., 783-9478	Lafayette Club 387 Canal St., 623-9323 Lazy Nick's Coffee House 362 Huse Road, 232-7187 Luigi's Pizza Bar & Grille 712 Valley St., 622-1021 Mad Bob's Saloon 342 Lincoln St., 669-3049 McGarvey's 1097 Elm St., 627-2721 Milly's Tavern 500 Commercial St., 625-4444 Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St., 644-3535 My Friend's Bar and Grill 507 Maple St., 627-3444 NH Institute of Art 148 Concord St. Olympic Lounge 506 Valley St., 644-5559	Meredith Camp 300 DW Highway, 279-3003 Giuseppe's Ristorante 312 DW Highway, 279-3313
Manchester 900 Degrees 50 Dow St., 641-0900 American Legion Wm H Jutras & Post No 43 56 Boutwell St., 623-9467 American Legion Post #79 35 W. Brook St. American Legion Sweeney Post 251 Maple St., 623-9145 Blu 1087 Elm St., 669-5523 Boynton's Taproom 155 Dow St., 623-7778 Breezeway Pub 14 Pearl St., 621-9111 British Beer Company 1071 S. Willow St., 232-0677	Lafayette Club 387 Canal St., 623-9323 Lazy Nick's Coffee House 362 Huse Road, 232-7187 Luigi's Pizza Bar & Grille 712 Valley St., 622-1021 Mad Bob's Saloon 342 Lincoln St., 669-3049 McGarvey's 1097 Elm St., 627-2721 Milly's Tavern 500 Commercial St., 625-4444 Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St., 644-3535 My Friend's Bar and Grill 507 Maple St., 627-3444 NH Institute of Art 148 Concord St. Olympic Lounge 506 Valley St., 644-5559	Merrimack The Homestead 641 DW Hwy., 429-2022 Jade Dragon 515 DW Highway, 424-2280
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Tuesday, Nov. 20 Concord Barley House: Irish Traditional Session Hermanos: Cormac McCarthy	Merrimack Homestead: MB Padfield Nashua Old Amsterdam: Malcolm
Laconia Pitman's Freight Room: Louisa Joy Wise	Wednesday, Nov. 21 Belmont The Lodge at Belmont: Eric Grant
Londonderry Whippersnappers: VJ Mark	Boscawen Alan's: Club Soda Band
Manchester Fratello's: Jeff Mrozek Milly's Tavern: Manchuka Strange Brew: Peter Parcek	Concord Hermanos: Mike Morris True Brew Barista: Dusty Gray
Meredith Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois	Dover Brick House: Lit on the Flash Fury's: All We Are Kelley's Row: Tim Theriault

Epping Holy Grail: Scott Barnett	Gilford Patrick's Pub: Paul Warnick Goffstown Village Trestle: Bruce Marshall Band
Hampstead Pasta Loft: Morning Wood Route 111 Village Square: Bacre Boys	Hampton La Bec Rouge: Red Sky Mary Wally's Pub: DJ Provo
Londonderry Coach Stop: Steve Sibulkin Whippersnappers: Bongo Fury	

Manchester Blu: Stomping Melvin Breezeway: DJ Shawn McKay British Beer Company: Crunchy Monkey City Sports Grille: Head Shop Club Realm: DJ K-Low Derryfield: Hypercane Drynk: DJ Spivak, DJ Danjah Fratello's: Alli Beaudry Jokers: Will Metivier Mad Bob's Saloon: The Bars Shaskeen: Â Aldous Collins Band Social 24: Demitri & Nate Comp Stage Door: Deep Into the Vybz with Jeff Hyde, Kila Trax and The Ark Strange Brew: Mr. Nick & the Dirty Tricks
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Meredith Giuseppe's: Bob Rutherford	Merrimack Homestead: Brian Gray
Milford Chapanga's: Corey Brackett J's Tavern: Lisa Guyer Pasta Loft: Small Town Stranded	
Nashua Arena Sports Bar: DJ Clever Girl Killarney's: Kieran McNally Old Amsterdam: Edison Slade's Food & Spirits: DJ Nick @ Night Studio 99: Bluegrass Jam Unums: Matt Jackson	

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Peterborough Players Theater
Hadley Road

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Harlow's Pub
3 School St., 924-6365
Peterborough Players Theater
Hadley Road

Newton
Hen House Sports Bar & Grill
85 S. Main St., 382-1705

Pelham
Shooters
116 Bridge St., 635-3577

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Harlow's Pub
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Peterborough Players Theater
Hadley Road

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Thursday, Nov. 22
Manchester

Fratello's: Jazz Night
Raxx Lounge: DJ Mike
Strange Brew: Jon Ross

Seabrook
Chop Shop Pub: Rosie

Friday, Nov. 23

Concord
Loudon Road Restaurant and Pit Road Lounge: Code 3
Makris: Bend the Ride
Purple Pit: Nick Goumas
Red Blazer: Sidecar
True Brew Barista: Diamond Joe

Dover

American Legion Post 8: Jim Wood
Brick House: Rustic Overtones,
The Demon
Fury's: Watkinsonics
Kelley's Row: Tim Theriault

Epping

Holy Grail Food & Spirits:
BooBoo Grove

Exeter

Shooters Pub: Chris Bartell

Gilford

Patrick's Pub: Sev

Hampstead

Pasta Loft: Chris & Matt
Route 111 Village Square: The

Take

Hampton

Wally's Pub: The Old Bastards

Laconia

Fratello's: Paul Warnick

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Kieran McNally
Whippersnappers: Without Paris

Manchester

British Beer Company: The Dons
City Sports Grille: Uncle Betty
Derryfield: Josh Logan Band
Fratello's: Marc Apostolides
Jokers: Steve Tolley
Milly's: Drift, DK, Wunder

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23
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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

◀72 **Jokers:** Steve Tolley
Milly's: Drift, DK, Wunder Who, Timmy Ossman, Jus Co, Sheikh Fye, Scotty, David Chizzy Childs
Murphy's Taproom: The Ride
Raxx Lounge: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: The Joshua Tree
Stage Door: The Hit Men
Strange Brew: Brian Templeton

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois

Merrimack

Homestead: Jen Oldham

Milford

J's Tavern: The Boogiemen
Pasta Loft: Tom Dixon Band

Nashua

Fody's: Zanois
Killarney's: Double Shot
Peddler's Daughter: Third Left
Stella Blue: Dave Bundza

Newmarket

Stone Church: Dressed for the Occasion, Nemes

Plaistow

Sad Cafe: blindspot, Collapse the Light

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid Island Grill: Elroy and Friends
Gas Light Co.: DJ Koko P, Corey Brackett, Doug Thompson
Press Room: Truffle
Ri Ra: Amorphous Band
Rudi's: Dimitri and Guest

Salem

Black Water Grill: Rob Breton

Sunapee

One Mile West Tavern: Patsy Whelan

Saturday, Nov. 24

Allenstown

Ground Zero: Perilous, Vices, Secrets Within, A City Below Ashes

Boscawen

Alan's: Doug Mitchell

Concord

Hermanos: Cormac McCarthy
Loudon Road Restaurant and Pit Road Lounge: Nomad
Purple Pit: Downtown Dave and the Deep Pockets
True Brew Barista: Chris Peters

Dover

Brick House: Bad Prom Date
Fury's: Red Sky Mary

Epsom

Circle 9 Ranch: Craig Kendall & The Northwood Playboys

Epping

Holy Grail Food & Spirits: Eargasm

SONGS FOR SANDY



After Super Storm Sandy battered New York and New Jersey, a group of veterans of the Concord music scene decided to partner with New York Cares, a relief organization to help those who need it. On Thursday, Nov. 29, at 8 p.m., Alan "Doc" Rogers (pictured), Kenny Weiland, Hank Osborne and Wilson's Crossing will take the stage at True Brew Barista (3 Bicentennial Square, Concord) for a benefit concert for the storm victims. Rogers said he has played similar benefit shows in the past and he thought this would be an opportune time for another.

"Last year Hank Osborne and I did a benefit for [Hurricane] Irene," Rogers said. "We raised a couple hundred bucks, and when Sandy hit we said, 'Let's do it again.'" Admission is a \$3 donation, but visitors can donate more if they choose. Receipts will be available at the venue for tax purposes. Call 225-2776.

SOUL SOUNDS



Some of the nation's greatest soul voices will make their way to Keene on Thursday, Nov. 29, at 7:30 p.m. The Temptations will perform at the Colonial Theatre (95 Main St., Keene). Tickets range from \$39.50 to \$59.50.

Call 352-2033 or visit www.thecolonial.org.

Gilford

Patrick's Pub: Paul Warnick

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Beechwood

Hampstead

Pasta Loft: Holiday Joe
Route 111 Village Square: BFD

Hampton

Wally's Pub: Liquid Courage

Laconia

Tower Hill Tavern: Lydia Warren

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Charlie Christos
Whippersnappers: Ript

Manchester

Boynnton's Taproom: Dueling

Pianos

British Beer Company: Friday After Five

City Sports Grille: Country Felix

Derryfield: The Ride

Fratello's: Marc Apostolides

Jam Factory: Better As Rivals, Nothing To No One, The Defoliators, We are Waiting

Jokers: Corey Brackett

Murphy's Taproom: Mugsy

Raxx Lounge: DJ Mike

Shaskeen: Tom Deniston Band

Stage Door: Nobody's Fault

Strange Brew: Jimmy East and the Soldiers of Soul

Wild Rover: Josh Logan & Paul Costly

The Yard: Boys of Rockingham

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Putnam Pirozzoli

Guitar Duo, DejaVooDoo

Merrimack

Homestead: Brian Gray

Milford

Clark's Tavern: Erinn Brown

J's Tavern: Bat Magoon

Pasta Loft: Max Capistran

Nashua

Fody's: Malcolm

Killarney's: Double Shot

Old Amsterdam: Baza and

Jimmy D

Peddler's Daughter: Cooper's

Escape

(Stella Blu: Rampage Trio

Newmarket

Stone Church: Truffle

Plaistow

Sad Cafe: Amanda McCarthy,

Bandwagon Inferno, Youthful

Minds, Zanois

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid Island Grill:

Chad Verbeck and the Old Trick

Dogs

Gas Light Co.: DJ Koko P,

Steve Tolley, Tony Santesse

Thirsty Moose: Satellite Club

Hotel

Press Room: Larry Garland &

Friends, The Serfs

Ri Ra: The Guilty Ones

Rudi's: Rob Gerry & Mike

Effenberg

Salem

Jocelyn's Lounge: Marc Fleury

Sunapee

One Mile West Tavern: Patsy

Whelan

Sunday, Nov. 25

Concord

Hermanos: John Franzosa

Dover

Brick House: Jim Dozet Trio,

DJ Erich Kruger

Hampton

Wally's Pub: Rob Benton

Londonderry

Whippersnappers: Lisa Guyer

Manchester

Shaskeen: Cappadonna, Louis

Logic, Ceschi, Eyenine

RECORDING LIVE FROM TUPELO



One of Boston's top roots rock bands will be heading to the Granite State for a special live recording show. The Mystix will take the stage at Tupelo Music Hall (2 Young Road, Londonderry) Saturday,

Nov. 24, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$20. Call 437-5100 or visit www.tupelohall.com.

Portsmouth

Press Room: Jerry Bergonzi

Ri Ra: Irish Sessions, Drew

Szeliga

Rudi's: John Franzosa

Seabrook

Chop Shop Pub: Double Shot

Monday, Nov. 26

Concord

Hermanos: John Franzosa

Manchester

Fratello's: Rob Wolfe

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Lou Porrazzo

Nashua

Studio 99: Ukulele Club

Portsmouth

Press Room: Russ Grazier

Combo

Ri Ra: Oran Mor

Tuesday, Nov. 27

Concord

Barley House: Irish Traditional

Session

Hermanos: Whit Symmes &

Tim Wildman

Dover

Fury's: Tim Theriault and Friends

Londonderry

Whippersnappers: VJ Mark

Manchester

Fratello's: Kim Riley

Milly's: Manchuka

Raxx Lounge: DJ Mike

Shaskeen: Tristan Omand

Strange Brew: Strange Brew

All-Stars

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois

Merrimack: Jeff Mrozek

Wednesday, Nov. 28

Concord

Hermanos: Dave Gerard

Dover

Fury's: All We Are

Laconia

Margate Resort: Violette

Manchester

Blu: Blu-Bop Trio

Fratello's: MB Padfield

Jokers: Dave Bundza

Strange Brew: David Rousseau

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Lou Porrazzo

Milford

J's Tavern: Lisa Guyer

Nashua

Killarney's: Kieran McNally

Old Amsterdam: CMG

Portsmouth

Rudi's: Dimitri

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Friday, Nov. 23

Manchester

Headliners: Tom

Hayes

Friday, Nov. 30

Manchester

Headliners: Mike

Koutrobis

Manchester

Headliners: Mike

Koutrobis

Portsmouth

Pearl: Frank Santorelli, 8 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Frank Santorelli, 10 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 7

Manchester

Boynnton's Taproom:

Eddie Brill, Dan

Crohn, Lauren Verge

Headliners: Rob Steen

Saturday, Dec. 8

Manchester

Headliners: Frank

Santos Jr.

Saturday, Nov. 24

Manchester

Headliners: Tom

Hayes

Saturday, Dec. 1

Concord

Cap Center: Head-

liners Comedy Club

with Jim Colliton, Jay

Grove, Jody Sloane

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SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from children's books written by Jamie Lee Curtis, born Nov. 22, 1958.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) "Sometimes it's better not to go fast. / There are beautiful sights to be seen when you're last." —Is There Really a Human Race? Enjoy the view back there. If you pay attention, you might learn useful things.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) "Is the race like a loop / or an obstacle course? / Am I a jockey, / or am I a horse?" —Is There Really a Human Race? Before you go running all over the place, figure out your role.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) "I know when to stop. And I know when to go. I know when to push. And I know when to tow." —It's Hard to be Five. Restrain your impulses. Timing is especially important now.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) "I'm gonna like me / when I open the box / and smile and say 'Thanks' / even though I got socks." —Like Me. You will get socks, and you will like them.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) "Some fun things are hard. And some hard things are fun. I know when to walk. I know when to run." —It's Hard to be Five. You will find difficulty in some activities you expected to be easy, but you'll also find ease in an event you expected to be difficult.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) "I'm gonna like me / wearing flowers and plaid. / I have my own style. / I don't follow some fad." —Like Me. You will make the best impression by adopting your own style and wearing it with pride.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) "Why am I racing? What am I winning? / Does all of my running keep the world spinning?" —Is There Really a Human Race? No. Take

a rest, have some ice cream and cookies or get a neck rub.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) "Persevere is to try and to try, / even though you might want to give up and cry. / When doing a puzzle that puzzles your mind, / you persevere till the right piece you find." —Big Words. A difficult task will prove rewarding for all the effort you've put into it.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) "Is there really a human race? / Is it going on now all over the place? / When did it start? Who said, 'Ready, Set, Go'? / Did it start on my birthday? / I really must know." —Is There Really a Human Race? When you find yourself in the middle of a race you didn't know had started, follow the crowd and stay alert.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) "It's hard to be five. / Just yelled at my brother. / My mind says do one thing. / My mouth says another." —It's Hard to Be Five. When your mouth says what your mind told it not to, and it most likely will, apologize, explain and make amends.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) "When I was little, I spilled a lot. My mom said I was a handful. Now I'm helpful." —When I Was Little: A Four-Year-Old's Memoir of Her Youth. You will encounter many opportunities to be helpful, and whatever efforts you make will be appreciated.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) "Today I feel silly. / Mom says it's the heat. / I put rouge on the cat / and gloves on my feet. / I ate noodles for breakfast / and pancakes at night. / I dressed like a star / and was quite a sight." —Today I Feel Silly. A wave of silliness approaches. Ride it.

NITE SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

	1							
			7	3				5
		6			1	2		
		4	5		6		8	
	5			8			4	
	2		1		9	5		
		7	8			1		
4				5	7			
							2	

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Difficulty Level ★★★

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week's puzzle answers are below

11/15

7	2	8	6	5	4	3	1	9
1	3	6	8	9	2	4	7	5
9	5	4	1	7	3	6	8	2
3	9	1	7	4	5	8	2	6
4	6	5	9	2	8	7	3	1
2	8	7	3	6	1	9	5	4
5	4	3	2	8	6	1	9	7
8	7	2	4	1	9	5	6	3
6	1	9	5	3	7	2	4	8

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Difficulty Level ★★★

"Secret Crossword"—for your eyes only.

Across

- 1 Suggestive hit from Van Halen
5 Prefix meaning "both"
9 Bog stuff
13 British children's author ____ Blyton
14 Actress Witherspoon
16 Supreme Court Justice ____ Bader

Ginsburg

- 17 UFO tracker's headwear, it's said
19 Writer Sarah ____ Jewett
20 Be
21 Shrimp and salmon, it's said
23 Org. with the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response

25 300, to Caesar

- 26 It figures heavily in the Mediterranean Diet, for short
27 Doha resident
31 Strudel topping
33 They're full of old growth
38 Award for a 30-second spot
39 "Heroes" villain (anagram of L-RAYS)

- 40 Out-of-control situation
43 Song title followed by "in all the wrong places"
46 Battery terminal
48 Company that owns the "Star Wars" franchise
49 Bro, e.g.

50 Dog seen during "Family Ties" closing credits

53 Massive Brit. lexicon

54 Shar-pei's features

57 Bunch

11/15



62 Tiny bit

63 Secret the theme answers contain

65 "Rhinstone Cowboy" singer

Campbell

66 More weak, like excuses

67 Aberdeen resident

68 Government org. "launched" in 1958

69 "Climb ____ Mountain" (song from "The Sound of Music")

70 Dick Tracy's love ____ Trueheart

Down

1 Ballet leap

2 Operating system option

3 ____ Cooper

4 Some printable files

5 "All Things Considered" reporter

Shapiro

6 Thin toast

7 Competitor of Glidden and

Sherwin-Williams

8 Designer Mizrahi

9 Univ. worker

10 Song contest with previous winners

ABBA and Celine Dion

11 When many take lunch

12 Homework eater, supposedly

15 Suffix after "diet" or "synth"

18 "SNL" alum Cheri

22 Mark Harmon series on CBS

24 Belarus city not far from the similarly-named capital

27 Network seen in "The Soup" segment

"Tales From Home Shopping"

28 Feel sick

29 Fossilized marine animals

30 "There's ____ reason for this..."

32 "Save" shortcut on some computers

34 "I thought this'd be helpful"

acronym

35 Former name of the cable network

Versus

36 UK flying corps

37 Etch away

41 The ____ Glove ("As Seen on TV" mitt)

42 Scottish novelist Josephine

44 Egg, on a French menu

45 Fingerprint line

46 Pass out homework

47 Inventor Tesla

51 Prepare water for pasta

52 Arm bones

53 Willow variety

55 Grandma, to some

56 Forthcoming psych book

58 Robbie who played Cousin Oliver on

"The Brady Bunch"

59 Way back when

60 Crafts from another planet

61 Crate & Barrel buys

64 ____ rub

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

Government in Action
 • Among the federally funded projects highlighted in the “2012 Waste Book” of U.S. Sen. Tom Coburn were a \$325,000 grant to develop a “robosquirrel” (to help study the somehow-confusing interaction between squirrels and rattlesnakes) and a \$700,000 grant by the National Science Foundation for a New York theater company to create a musical about climate change and biodiversity (which actually opened this year, in Kansas City, and included among its concepts, according to one critic, “flying monkey poop”). Abuses of the food stamp program were also detailed, such as by one exotic dancer who, while earning \$85,000, drew food stamps in an amount roughly equivalent to the sum she spent on “cosmetic enhancements.”

• While the Department of Veterans Affairs remains under criticism for inadequate funding for personnel disabled in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, it spent in 2010 more than \$5 million on training conferences just to teach bureaucrats how to administer parts of its latest collective-bargaining contract, according to an October report in the Washington Examiner. In fact, reported the Examiner, \$34 million in payroll goes to department officials who work mainly on union-related activities.

Great Art!
 • “I wanted to create a self-portrait that was completely stripped of ... visual prejudice,” said Polish-born New York artist Martynka Wawrzyniak, who thus chose the medium of “smell” for her gallery showing in New York City (running through mid-November). For starters, she “scientifically extracted” her hair oils, armpit perspiration and tears (to protest humans’ cloaking themselves in deodorant soaps and laundry powders), and blasted visitors with whiffs of it as they entered the gallery.

• Because We Can: The Tate Liverpool museum in England was host on Oct. 19 to artist Kerry Morrison’s Bird Sheet music project in which she laid down a giant blank musical score sheet under a tree and waited for birds to make “deposits” on it, which she took to represent “notes” that composer Jon Hering plans to play straight, as the “sound” of the blackbirds.

Democracy in Action
 • Getting Out the Vote: (1) Just before a primary election in June, Albuquerque, N.M., TV station KOB apparently caught, on camera, a poll worker for two county government candidates offering potential voters miniature bottles of whiskey to sip during free rides to early voting centers. (2) Los Angeles’ KCBS-TV reported in October that leaflets sponsored by the Progress and Collaboration Slate for its local candidates

in Eagle Rock, Calif., also mentioned an offer of \$40 worth of “medical-grade marijuana” as incentive for voting. (3) Carme Cristina Lima, 32, running for town councillor in Itacoatiara, Brazil, was arrested in October for allegedly passing out cocaine packets attached to her campaign leaflets.

• Colleen Lachowicz won her contest for a Maine state senate seat in November despite ridicule by opponents for her admitted devotion to the online game World of Warcraft. “Certainly,” said an opposing-party official, “the fact that she spends so much time on a video game says something about her work ethic and ... immaturity.” Her WoW character is Santiago, an “orc (Level 85) assassination rogue” with green skin, fangs, a Mohawk and pointy ears.

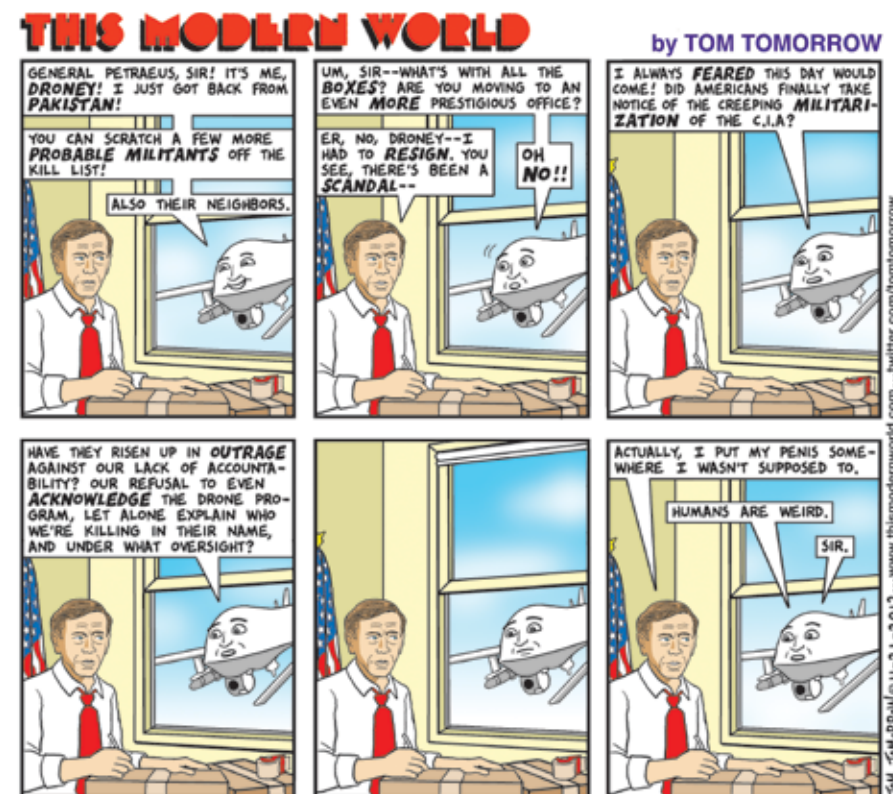
• In several high-profile races across the country in November, voters rejected candidates who had been accused of wrongdoing and corruption, but Brian Banks survived. He was elected as a Michigan state representative from Detroit, with 68 percent of the vote, even though his rap sheet includes eight felony convictions for bad checks and credit card fraud. (Campaign slogan: “You Can Bank on Banks.”) Also, Michigan’s 11th Congressional District elected reindeer farmer Kerry Bentivolio, whose brother had described him as “mentally unbalanced.”

Least Competent Criminals
 Rookie Mistakes: (1) Arthur Bundrage, 28, was arrested in Syracuse, N.Y., in October after he returned to the Alliance Bank — which he had just robbed minutes earlier — because he discovered that the employee had given him less than the \$20,000 his demand note ordered. Officers arrived to

find Bundrage standing by the front doors, trying to get back in. (2) A September theft from a sofa superstore in Northampton, England, ended badly for two men, who had just loaded a pair of couches (worth the equivalent of about \$650 each) into their truck and were about to drive off. However, the store manager rushed out and, noticing the truck’s unfastened back door, reached in and pulled the sofas out, leaving the men to drive away empty-handed. The sequence was captured on surveillance video, leading store owner Mark Kypta to liken it to “something out of a Benny Hill film.”

Readers’ Choice
 (1) In October, a 2-foot-long shark fell from the sky and landed near the 12th tee at the San Juan Hills Golf Club in San Juan Capistrano, Calif. A security guard saw the incident, and an attendant placed the shark in a bucket of water (with some salt) and drove it four miles to the Pacific Ocean. (Best guess among observers: An osprey or peregrine falcon had snatched it from the ocean but eventually lost its grip.) (2) In October, a major fire mysteriously started inside Red Lion Liquors (in, coincidentally, Burnsville, Minn.). Since nothing spark-producing was found, fire officials guessed that sunlight, magnified through vodka bottles, had ignited surrounding paper signs, and the heat eventually pressured the vodka bottles’ tops to burst, exacerbating the flames. Firefighters, even, appeared amazed, with one quoted as saying, “This is so cool!”

Handy addresses: *WeirdNews* at earthlink dot net, www.NewsoftheWeird.com.



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